WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1998

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No. 66,122

TODAY

ONLY IN THE TIMES

WHAT WERE

HER LAST

WORDS?

DEATH OF A PRINCESS

DIANA AND DODI'S MARRIAGE **PLANS**

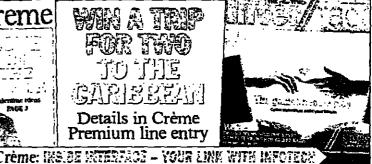
PAGES 14-15

NOSLEY Robert Skidelsky

PAGE 16



Details in Crème Premium line entry



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Sinn Fein faces expulsion from talks

Ceasefire in balance after 'IRA killings'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SINN FEINS place in the Stormont peace talks was in danger last night after republican gunmen killed two men. in Belfast within 12 hours. Unionist and loyalist politicians said they would demand Sim Fein's expulsion if, as they believed, the TRA was connected to either death,

Robert Dougan, a prominent loyalist with strong paramilitary connections, was killed as he sat in a car at lunchtime in one of Belfast's southern suburbs. Three men with IRA connections were later arrested.

The previous night Brendan Campbell, a well-known drugs dealer, was shot dead outside a restaurant in south Belfast. Last month Mr Campbell survived an assassination attempt by an IRA front organisaton named Direct Action Against Drugs, and security sources said they strongly suspected DAAD was responsible for his death.

The Ulster Unionist Party said it would demand Sinn Fein's expulsion if the Royal Ulster constabulary confirmed the IRA's involvement. just as the loyalist Ulster. Democratic Party had been ejected last month after its paramilitary wing, the Ulster Defence Association, admitted killing three Catholics.

"If it is, as it presently looks, the work of the IRA then there's only one consequence,"
- said David Trimble, the UUP

The UDP and Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party



Dougan: three men held after his murder

also demanded Sim Fein's expulsion. Gary McMichael, the UDP leader, said the gunmen were trying to provoke the UDA into retaliation and wanted to bring this society to its knees and bring this process down. The RUC said it was too early to issue a definitive statement on who was resmonsible

Paul Murphy, the Political Development Minister, said that if the murders were group connected to any participant "the implications of that will need to be very seriously examined. The Government is determined to maintain the

integrity of this process". Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's President, denied that his party represented the IRA and accused the Unionists of exploiting the murders. They don i care who was killed," he said. What they see is some tactical advantage to themselves in an attempt to wreck this process and oust Sinn

Were Sinn Fein to be ex-

prevent the IRA returning to violence Hardliners are known to be disenchanted with the talks and the number of kneecappings and punish-ment beatings has risen in recent weeks. But the more immediate danger is that the UDA will abandon its recently-resumed ceasefire.

Mr Dougan, 38, and married with a 12-year-old son, was a senior UDA member who had survived two previous assassination attempts.

A gumman wearing a base ball cap shot him as he waited to pick up a babysitter outside a shop in Dunmurry. He died almost immediately. Shortly afterwards three men were seen running away from a car they had abandoned in west Belfast.

The police took away three men from a house nearby. The car was believed to have been a taxi hijacked from Andersonstown, another staunchly renublican area. Mr Dougan was shot a few

hundred yards from where nent loyalist, Jim Guiney, last month. The INIA denied responsibility. Mr Campbell, 30, was killed

as he emerged from a restaurant in Lisburn Road on Monday night. A woman friend was seriously injured and taken to hospital.

Security sources said that last year he had launched a grenade attack on Connolly House, Sinn Fein's headquarters in an act of defiance then telephoned to claim responsibility. Last month gunmen shot him in the chest as he drank in a Belfast bar.









On the Oscar shortlist: Julie Christie (top left); Judi Dench (top right); Helena Bonham Carter (bottom left) and Kate Winslet

British stars are Oscar leading ladies

By Dalya Alberge ARTS CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH stars yesterday dominated the shortlist for best actress in this year's Oscars by winning four of the five nominations.

Dame Judi Dench was nominated for her portrayal of Queen Victoria in Mrs Brown. Kate Winslet for her role in Titanic, Helena Bonham Carter for Wings of A Dove and Julie Christie for Afterglow, which has yet to be released in

The hugely successful British film The Full Monty received four nominations, including best film.

Dame Judi. p3, who has been showered with awards for her stage work, said yesterday that she was "stunned" by the news.

In more than 40 years since she first appeared at the Old Vic as Ophelia, audiences have been captivated by her performances, which straddle high and low culture — from great Shakespearean roles to sitcoms. Yet apart from supporting parts in films such as A Room With A View and recent James Bond features. she has stayed clear of the cinema: "I've never had a leading role in a film."

She feels uncomfortable with the medium because she els that, unlike the the arre, once something is filmed it cannot be improved. Until Mrs Brown she had been too squeamish even to watch her own films.

Yesterday, she explained her unease with the cinema: it dates from when she was 23 and a film director cruelly told her she had "every single thing" wrong with her face. "I never got over it." she said.

That director has a lot to answer for, but Dame Judi was decent enough not to name him.

Oscar race, page 9

Major supports Cook on Iraq

lohn Major said that if the West decided to target President Saddani Hussein's Republican Guard the Com-

mons should back the action. In his first Commons intervention since losing the elec-tion, Mr Major said that there must be no concessions to Saddam, whom he described as a psychopath......Page 10

Motorist shot

A man was shot last night in what is thought to be a "road rage" row in Croydon, South London. The victim, 46, was said to be in a stable condition. The other man escaped.

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When in Rome Yeltsin is, as usual, confused

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

IT WAS, said Il Messaggero, the Rome daily, an historic encounter between "the Russian Bear and the Holy But Boris Yeltsin's first visit

to Rome since the fall of Communism in 1991 got off to an all too familiar embarrassing start yesterday when the Russian leader appeared confused, unsure who he was talking to and even more unsure of what he had said the day before.

The day began well in brilliant sunshine, when Mr Yeltsin visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Italians had done their best to organise things perfectly; three ambulances followed the huge Russian convoy. an army of advisers was on hand and staff at the Grand Hotel reportedly cleared the minibar in the Yeltsin suite of all alcohol, leaving only fruit juice and mineral water. Nonetheless, Mr. Yeltsin offended his hosts by failing to salute the Italian flag, walking straight past it, despite attempts by his embarrassed aides to stop him. Later, at a press conference with Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, with

whom he signed a number of bilateral deals in fields from the economy to culture, Mr Yeltsin appeared not to understand many of the questions. He said there would be "dire consequences leading to a big conflagration" if America and Britain attacked Baghdad. He was asked why he had

said on arrival that Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, was heading for Baghdad to try and avert warwhen Mr Annan's office had said the Secretary-General had no such plans. "But I never said I was going to Iraq," Mr Yeltsin said, clearly befuddled. His press secretary whispered in vain in his ear.

Several times Mr Yeltsin had to be propped up by aides. Diplomats said it was all too reminiscent of his last foreign



Russian Bear and Holy Father at the Vatican yesterday

Unkindest cut of all for stylist sacked by Queen

By Simon de Bruxelles

FOR three years Paul Burgess, a stylist, made sure there was not a hair out of place on the Oueen's head. Once a week. until his was sacked last year, he would travel to Buckingham Palace from his salon in Cheltenham to attend to the royal hair. Yesterday Mr Burgess lost a

claim that he was unfairly dismissed. He believed that he had been sacked because his salon had been taken over. But the tribunal heard that the Queen had requested his replacement and had asked for her involvement to be concealed to avoid offending him. The hearing was told that

division, revealed that it was

the Queen who wanted him to

go. Ms Schaverien said: "We

were not given any options. I

was told by the Queen not to

Ms Schaverien said she

tried to break the news gently

to Burgess that he had been

dismissed from the £100-a-

week job by quoting complica-

tions over the change of

The tribunal in Bristol

heard that Mr Burgess was

manager of Hooper's Salon,

owned by Nicholas Steiner

who held the Royal Warrant.

Mr Burgess said: In 1994 1

was instructed by Nicholas

Steiner that I would be cutting

the hair of, in his words, the

most important person."

ownership.

mention her involvement."

glad to see your husband in such good form." Like Mr Yeltsin the Pope Mr Burgess, who is in his midhas to pace himself. Yesterday 30s, was fired after returning his left hand shook uncontrolfrom a royal visit to Canada last July. Vicky Schaverien, managlably, said by medical expens to be one of the signs of ing director of the Steiner hairdressing group training Parkinson's Disease.

foray, to Sweden in December

when he mistakenly asserted

that Germany and Japan were

nuclear powers and kept the King waiting. By the time he reached the Vatican, however,

he appeared to have concen-

trated his mind and all was smiles between him and the

Pope, who greeted him in

Russian. Mr Yeltsin was ac-

companied by his daughter. Tatyana, who is also his

closest adviser, and his wife

Naîna, who laid a grandmoth-

erly hand on the Pope's arm,

saying: "We are all with you."

hope that we all greet the new millennium." He glanced at Mr Yeltsin and added: "I am

The Pope replied: "Let us

Mr Yeltsin, who brought his own chef with him from Moscow, was depicted in a front page cartoon in La Repubblica greeting the Pope with the words: "Let's eat first and pray afterwards".

Alcohol, however, was firmly off the agenda, apart from the Lambrusco and Chianti at the official dinners. Staff at the Grand Hotel where the Yeltsins were staying, were ordered to remove all spirits as well as the chocolate bars and packets of peanuts.

For the Italians, the focus of interest was not so much Mr Yeltsin but his daughter Tatyana, who they were intrigued to find was not only good-looking but was also constantly at the Russian lead-



Paul Burgess: was not told of royal decision

In March 1996, the Steiner Group sold the salon to Regis Ltd but allowed Mr Burgess to continue as the Queen's hairdresser on his days off. In July last year Mr Burgess was told by letter that his services to the Queen were no longer needed. Mr Burgess said: "I was

shocked to be dismissed like that so quickly. All I could think was my replacement would not see how I cut the Queen's hair and this would cause problems." The chairman, Colin Sara,

said: "We have come to the conclusion the applicant throughout was employed by Regis and that when he was no longer required by the Queen to act as her hairdresser. Regis and the applicant lost

Buckingham Palace said last night: "Mr Burgess worked as a reserve stylist for the Queen under Charles Martin. He then became her principal stylist, a post which



Foreign Office gets to bottom of a little local difficulty

What's left of our empire used to be called the Dependent Territories, but the Government plans a change of name. A littlenoticed U-turn emerged yesterday, however, when ministers made clear that Britain's overseas territories are not (as was first announced) to be renamed Brit-

ish Overseas Territories. Someone in the Foreign Office seems to have woken up to a certain lack of dignity in the acronym. We are to

eign Secretary Robin Cook told Diane Abbott (Lab. Hackney N & Stoke Newington) that he wished MPs would use United Kingdom than the old term. Dependent Territories, which he said was demeaning. But less demeaning than BOTS.

Bottom. of course, is another matter. In politics, you have it or you don't. The distinguished Tory grandee Sir Peter Tapsell (Louth & yesterday to interrupt cater-

servative benches over the Foreign Secretary's replacement of his diary secretary.

Robin Cook handled these nincompoops with some dignity, taking a rude question from Julian Lewis (C, New Forest E) who speaks as though auditioning for the role of Sweeney Todd the Demon Barber.

To the surprise of some, Michael Howard, Mr Cook's Shadow, chose to leap in. trying to cross-question Mr Cook on whether any civil



servant had talked him out of employing his mistress. Cook said No. and reminded Mr Howard that when Howard was Home Secretary, his decision to sack his Director of Prisons had cost the taxpayer £300.000 in

"What a bunch scumbags!" shouted one Labour backbencher at the Tories. Sir Peter Tapsell seemed to agree, though he would never have put it in such terms. To see his party involved in this sort of muckraking about mistresses and diary secretaries was too

demeaning. He rose. "When I was a very young man," said Sir Peter, who has just turned 68.

Eden said to me that attacks ad hominem were almost always a mistake." He hoped both parties could rise above the present level of namecalling and personal abuse. The Foreign Secretary seemed grateful.

Mr Cook did well, again, in his Statement on Iraq some minutes later. Supported by John Major, who called Saddam Hussein "a psychopath without a conscience", Cook struck a deft balance of firmness with coolness, though he seems to be having

dissidents among whom turned up in any number to speak. At one point the Foreign Secretary told MPs that Saddam had "cleansed iraq's prisons by executing all those sentenced to more than 15 years". Even from my position behind Michael Howard. I could see the flash of excitement in his eyes, reflecting off new Labour cufflinks

opposite.
Among his answers to
MPs, the Foreign Secretary
made two remarks which this sketch is having difficulty

own backbenchers, only the reconciling. Mr Cook told dissidents among whom one backbencher, who was anxious that Saddam Hussein be toppled, that while this was not the objective, the Iraqi dictator should understand that he was more likely to hold on to power if he backed down now. But Mr Cook told Ann Clwyd (Lab. Cynon Valley) that it was Britain's intention that Saddam should be indicted and tried for war crimes.

These assertions cannot both the true. To both, however, MPs shouted hear.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dinner

ladies win

£1.5m in

back pay

Nearly 400 school dinner ladies were awarded £1.5 mil-

ID smartcards to be voluntary, says minister

Whitehall's planned electronic revolution will mean

'joined-up government', Valerie Elliott reports

PERSONAL identity cards for every citizen are being reconsidered by ministers as part of a package of measures to improve public services. The aim is to allow people to use their card to claim benefits, get access to medical records or deal with their tax affairs.

The cards would be voluntary but ministers hope everyone will choose to carry one. There are no plans at present for it to become a compulsory national identity

A government source said: The potential scope for the new card was huge. We do not wish to impose the card or to intimidate people with fear of big brother. But the idea is that everyone would have one. It would become an important card because it would be so

A sophisticated smartcard would guarantee a person's identity and could be the key for using computer technology to order and pay for television licences, vehicle tax discs and

The Government's interest in identity cards was disclosed yesterday by David Clark. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who confirmed they were back on the agenda. The Government was studying work being carried out by the Department of Social Security, and he said: "Smartcards are being actively considered."

He painted a vision of people receiving such licences and documents by way of a fax machine attached to a digital television. He suggested that a card could be used to get access to government services. He said that officials were researching public views about such a card and that initial feedback was that people were not afraid of government departments sharing information held on them. Most assumed that once they gave information to one department, it was passed on another branch of

The proposals are expected to be a centrepiece of the Government's planned White Paper on Better Government due in the spring. Dr Clark yesterday outlined the ideas for the planned revolution in public services to a conference organised by the Fabian Soci-

He also confirmed that in future many government functions could be contracted out to local government so that people could deal directly with "one-stop shops" and even suggested that just as the Post Office was contracted to handle Giro payments so, too, information technology companies might one day send bank account. He accepted



being actively considered

that there would be difficult problems to confront and that staff would have to be flexible, but he said people deserved higher standards and simpler

delivery of public services.

Dr Clark outlined his plans for what he termed "joined up government which would remove traditional departmental boundaries and simplify services for the citizen. For the strategy to work, however. Dr Clark emphasised the need for a new powerbase between Downing Street and the Cabinet Office to ensure change

was effectively delivered. One possibility would be to create a board of management to include Ministers without any departmental alleigance to push through reforms.

Dr Clark said the Government had already strengthened the No 10 policy unit, and had set up a strategic communications unit but they now had to look at strategic management for the whole government. Such tighter coordination would drive up paving of different government departments and agencies, and chase policy implementation across

Senior officials have ruled out the creation of a separate Prime Minister's department but they want departments to

operate more routinely. It is understood that Mr Blair and his staff are considering whether to appoint a senior businessman or polit-ical heavyweight to help drive forward the electronic revolution in Government and insure that departments pool





Ken Maginnis rejected Mo Mowlam's call for an apology, and she did not insist in order to protect the peace talks

Name-calling angers Unionists

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A FURIOUS row triggered by Mo Mowlam's failure to ad-dress an Ulster Unionist by his Christian name vesterday showed how fraught relations between the Northern Ireland Secretary and the province's biggest party have become.

It erupted during a committee meeting at last week's Stormont peace talks when the famously informal minister addressed Ken Maginnis's colleague, Dermot Nesbitt, as "Mr Nesbitt" after addressing all the other delegates by their Christian names.

Mr Maginnis, the Unionist MP for Fermanagh, considrefused to accept Dr Mowlam had simply forgotten Mr Nesbitt's first name and walked out, calling the Secretary of State a "damned liar". In a leaked letter to David Trimble, the UUP leader, Dr Mowlam deplored the "vicious and unwarranted attack" and insisted his verbal her officials had to stop. "I have to tell you that until I receive an apology from you ... on his behalf, or from Mr Maginnis, I will not do busi-

ness with him in the talks." Mr Maginnis, backed by Mr Trimble, rejected her demand. He claimed she had spent 20 minutes with her back to the two Unionists while talking exclusively to the Sinn Fein delegates. He said he regretted the adjective "damned" but not the noun "liar", claiming Dr Mowlam had often been "economical with the truth".

"You have to ask yourself how long the Ulster Unionists can be ignored," he said. "We have tried for a very long time to work with the Secretary of State, but there comes a moment when you have to say enough is enough. He accused Dr Mowlam of doing her utmost to keep "Sinn Fein-IRA" at the table while seeking to bar him from the talks

ETIQUETTE MINEFIELD IN PEACE TALKS

When Mo Mowlam introduced Christian names to the Northern Ireland peace negotiations, she was throwing out centuries-old etiquette for a social minefield (Philip Delves Broughton writes). Drusilla Beyfus, author of *Modern* Manners, says: "Using Christian names is quite an excluder. If you're going to use first names, it has to be universal but, if it's universal, it loses its point because first names are meant to signify some kind of intimacy." In the Commons, MPs call each other by their Government title, constituency or the catch-all Right Honourable or Honourable Lady or Gentleman, saving the

because he told uncomfortable truths about the republicans.

Government sources insisted Dr Mowlam had been soliciting views around the table and simply suffered a "momentary : memory lapse" when she came to Mr Nesbitt, a lesser-known member of the UUP delegation. They said she was "fed up" with the abuse directed at her by Unionists and believed an apology was warranted, but was not prepared to jeopardise

the talks to get one. Annie Campbell, a Womens Coalition delegate who attended the meeting, said Dr Mowlam had apologised for not knowing Mr Nesbitt's first name and said Mr Maginnis's behaviour was "very childish

- it was a tantrum". There have been repeated clashes between leading Unionists and Dr Mowlam: last month they demanded her resignation after the murder of a leading loyalist in the Maze prison.

face a delay in choosing a chief executive after 500 people applied for the £75,000-a-year post. Applicants include leading figures from Britain's biggest chanties and several prominent businessmen. Book extract, pages 14, 15

Baroness Hayman, the Road Safety Minister, will today announce trials of police tests to discover how many motorists are driving while under the influence of drugs. Almost one in three drivers killed is under the influence of alco-

Farmer cleared

HEARTS JOINED, PROPOSALS MADE AND A FULL review of compensation for soldiers, sailors and VOWS RENEWED. airmen killed or injured in military action or peacetime duties was ordered by the

THIS SATURDAY AT

HARRODS.

If two things were destined to be together this Valentine's day, it's you and Harrods. Choose from seven floors of gifts ranging from the traditional. such as fine Belgian chocolates and floral bouquets, to the more extravagant, like a Chopard Love Ring from our Fine Jewellery Room. Or you could choose to treat your Valentine to a romantic meal. Heart-shaped salmon parcels with oysters in the Sea Grill perhaps, or a special Valentine's banquet at the Georgian Restaurant. So this Saturday say those three special little words your loved one has been dying to hear. Let's visit Harrods.



Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SWIX 7XI., Tel: 0171-730 1234.

Services to review | Campaign on real compensation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

Government last night.

George Robertson, the De-Secretary, ordered the review after a British soldier who lost his leg on United Nations peacekeeping duties in Bosnia failed to win his

The High Court ruled on Monday that the Ministry of Defence had not acted unfairly in refusing to compensate Sergeant Trevor Walker, 32. But ministers accept that the anomalies in the schemes that prevented him receiving recompense should not be allowed to continue.

While the changes cannot be retrospective, ministers are determined to try to avoid repeats of a case that has embarrassed the Government. Under the criminal injuries compensation overArmed Forces were supposed to get compensation equal to that which they would have received in Britain.

The scheme did not provide for personnel injured by vio-lence resulting from "war operations or military activity by warring factions". The court ruled that because Sergeant Walker had been involved in military activity he fell within the exemption.

The Defence Ministry and the Department of Social compensation arrangements. Minsiters said experience from the Gulf and Bosnia had shown there was a need for a simpler, universal approach. The review is to examine arrangements for compensa tion and pensions for death, injury or illness arising as a result of military service.

Sergeant Walker was in jured in May 1995 when a Serbian tank opened fire on a school that served as an

life, says Major

By James Landale, political reporter

JOHN MAJOR has told Tory in if our interests are protected MPs to restrain their feuding over a single currency, and concentrate on issues that directly affect people's lives. rather than "abstract ideological debates".

In a magazine interview to be published tomorrow, the former Prime Minister says that "an antagonistic debate" about European Monetary Union does not help the party when it is not yet known whether it would be right for Failing to mention William

Hague's position that Britain's entry should be ruled out for ten years, Mr Major expresses the earlier and more broad Tory position that a single currency should be ruled out "for the foreseeable future".

In an interview with Crossbow, the house magazine for the Bow Group, a broadchurch Tory think-tank, Mr Major says: "Everyone will concur that we should only go

and it is right for Britain. We cannot know that for quite a time and I see no reason for carrying on this debate in such a fashion. An antagonistic debate does not help the Conservative Party." -He says that the Tory party

should fight the next election from the moderate, centre right and not from the we have to concentrate on the things that matter to people in their own individual lives rather than abstract ideological debates that are of little interest to the public at large and that just tend to blur the message of something that has. been true for the past two hundred years; namely that the Conservative Party's instincts are much more in tune with the average British citi-

zen than any other party's.
We have hidden that pretty effectively in our debates recently and we need to begin to expose that again."

lion compensation at an industrial tribunal yesterday for having their pay cut. Four years ago Befordshire County Council reduced their wages

by a third in an attempt to make the service more competitive and ward off competition from a private contractor. Most of the women will receive between £2,000 and £4,000 in back pay, although

a few could get up to £15,000. Their unions, Unison and GMB, had argued that the council had breached the Sex Discrimination Act and the Equal Pay Act by cutting their pay, holiday entitlements and sick pay.

New murder clue

French police investigating the rape and murder of Caroline Dickinson yesterday confirmed the discovery of firm evidence that the killer had attacked another British schoolgirl in a different youth bostel a few miles away just hostel a few miles away just bours earlier. The 13-year-old schoolgirl from Cornwall was killed in on July 1996.

Campbell in soup

Forty Labour MPs signed a Commons Early Day Motion condemning Tony Blair's Of-ficial Spokesman, Alastair Campbell, after he accused the BBC of being "down-market and dumbed down" last week. The left-wing MPs expressed confidence in the BBC's news values and objec-

Bishops' move

The Archbishop of Canter-bury is considering reviewing the way bishops are appoint ed because of the time it has taken to find a successor for Bishop of Liverpool. The Right Rev David Sheppard, now Lord Sheppard, retired last September but said he was leaving nearly a year ago. Tax burden, page 8

Diana fund delay

Trustees of the Diana, Prin cess of Wales Memorial Fund

Drug-drive tests

hol, while one in five has traces of drugs in the bloodstream.

The trial of a farmer charged settlement, described as one of the most important in Scotland, collapsed when it emerged that the remains were in a 20th-century quarry.
William Black had been accused of erecting an 80k telephone mast on the site near Leuchars, Fife.

Ministers reject peers' curb on cheap papers

POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Government faces the prospect of a backbench rebellion in the Commons after making plain yesterday that the Lords amendment forbidding pricecutting campaigns by national news-papers would not pass into law.

Ministers are to table an amend-ment to the Competition Bill to ensure that the Lords cross-party campaign. aimed principally at News International, a subsidiary of The News Corporation, parent company of The Times, does not succeed. It is likely to insist

that the newspaper industry should not as the amendment backed by 23 rebel Labour peers suggests, be treated as a special case. But the Government may move to

meet the concerns of potential Labour rebels in the Commons by using the amendment to strengthen the powers against so-called predatory pricing already contained in the Bill.

Ministers and whips are anxious that the Bill should not be seen solely as a measure to constrain Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of News Corp, and began moves yesterday to convince Labour MPs that

the powers in the Bill already gave the Downing Street and the whips said Office of Fair Trading strong powers to intervene. "We are providing the framework in the Bill and we are leaving the regulator to deal with individual cases and complaints as they arise." Downing Street said.

The Government will table the amendment for the standing committee stage of the Bill which takes place away from the floor of the Commons. Its difficulties could come at the report stage, in which all MPs can partici-pate, if dissident Labour MPs feel that it has not gone far enough to counter promotional pricing. But both

yesterday that the Lords amendment was unacceptable. The Prime Minister's spokesman said government bustness managers would have to work out how to deal with the problem. But he added: "What you can be sure of is this () amendment will not become law."

He denied that Labour had "gone" soft on suggestions some years ago that it would end predatory pricing it the newspaper industry because of Tony Blair's relationship with Mr

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1998

That was no bucket of water, says Prescott's Brits attacker, it was a metaphor ...

صكذا من الاجل

Mum says anarchist has some explaining to do

AND RUSSELL JENKINS

THE pop star anarchist who left John Prescott furious after drenching him at the Brit Awards will have some explaining to do when he rings his mother, she said yester-day. The culprit, Danbert Nobacon, of the band Chombawumba, is a former school prefect and boy scout whose real name is Nigel Hunter. Police said that no action

would be taken against him but the Deputy Prime Minister deplored the soaking as

cowardly and contemptible.
Labour Party officials also expressed their anger.

Mr Nobacon, 35, and his colleagues left for a tour of Japan yesterday but his mother. Shirely Hunter, spoke of the supprise She and her husband, Roy, a builder, had her surprise. She and her listened to the event on radio but had not realised their son had tipped the contents of an ice bucket over Mr Prescott.

A THE STREET

enum 🖖 🗸

"I won't get angry with him," said Mrs Hunter, of Burnley, Lancashire, who is in her 50s and works part-time for an estate agents. "I think it is a mistake for parents to do that before they know the reasons. But I would like him to explain why he did it. It was certainly different." She said he normally calls once a week. Mrs Hunter has been an

avid follower of her son's pop career since he formed his first



Danbert Nobacon at the Brit Awards and, right, as model schoolboy Nigel Hunter at Burnley grammar

was not sure why he changed

his name from Nigel Hunter to Danbert Nobacon.

"I do like the name Dan and

I sometimes call him that, but

when he is at home I think he

likes to be called Nigel. It

Her son was arrested but a

reminds him of his life here."

police spokesman said yester-

day that Mr Prescott, who was

sitting with his wife, Pauline,

had made no complaint. "No further action is being taken." the spokesman said. "But we

reserve the right to reinterview

if necessary." Mrs Hunter was hard-pressed to remember

other outrageous behaviour by her son. "He always did his

homework and worked hard

at school," she said. "But I was

shocked when he came home

band, at the age of 16, called Chimp Eats Banana. He left Burnley Grammar School with four A-levels and read English at Leeds University but dropped out. He later gained a higher education degree. Graduation pictures adom the family's pebble-

dashed semi-detached house. Mrs Hunter described her reaction when she discovered her son was an anarchist. "I thought 'Oh yes, that's nice.'
Then I looked up anarchist in the dictionary to see what it was. To me it doesn't matter what he is, it's the person inside that matters."

She said she had no interest in politics and rarely spoke to hair off." She was mystified about the motive for the soaking.
Mr Prescott condemned the

attack as a publicity stunt, adding that it was "utterly contemptible that [roy] wife and other womenfolk should have been subjected to such cowardly terrifying behaviour simply because they were accompanying a public figure at an event designed to sup-port the British music

Band members, who met while living in a squat, have openly criticised new Labour. At the ceremony one member wore a T-shirt with the words Sold Out. In October, the group gave £20,000 from a concert to the striking Liverpool dockers.

The band hinted two weeks ago that it was planning something more interesting than just performing at the event. Mr Nobacon is married to Laura, an American, and according to his mother, they rent a house in Leeds.

He is a keen fell runner and supporter of Burnley Football Club, and the second of three hovs. Brother Jason, 38, works for Unison, the health services union, while Brent, 31, is a chartered engineer. Family holidays were spent in Devon. Of the band, she said: They are marvellous - all nice people. Nigel would not hurt anyone or damage prop-

erty; he is very quiet, very caring and I am proud of what

Labour officials expressed anger at the "apparent lack of contrition" from the awards' organisers or the group's record company. "We have heard nothing from them about any concerns about the security of the event and what they are going to do in the future, especially as the band appears to have preplanned everything," a senior party spokesman said.

A spokesman for the Brit Awards condemned Chumbawumba's actions as a "cheap stunt". He said: "It didn't spoil anything. In fact Mr. Prescott stayed and was backstage



Musical map is no way to hit the road

By Damian Whitworth

BRITPOP has been put on the map, although music fans who arrive on these shores clutching their guides to pop geography would be wise not to expect a glamorous trip.

The new British Tourist Authority map, featuring an electric guitar-shaped Britain, would be useless as a serious aid to navigation. However, on the towns and cities with details of their positions in

the history of pop.
World-famous locations such as the Liverpool and London of The Beatles are well documented. There are also dozens of places that have only the most obscure connection with the music world. One wonders what sort of obsessive would travel to Cambridge because Olivia Newton-John lived there until she moved to Australia, aged five. Who would head for Authorpe in Lincolnshire because the mother of Corinne Drewery, of Swing Out Sister, once ran a hedgehog hospital there?

Anthony Sell of BTA said he hopes that "visitors will use the map to explore every nook and cranny of Britain's incredible pop heritage". Unfortunately, the map is short on detail when it comes to the homes of stars such as Sir Elton John, somewhere in Windsor.

As befits true grandfa-thers of rock, old haunts of the Rolling Stones pop up all over the place. But one of the most popular locations in the guide does not celebrate British music at all, but the most fleeting of visits by Elvis Presley. who hopped out at Prestwick airport while his plane was being refuelled in 1960 as it took him home from military ser-vice in Germany. The Graceland Bar now puts on dances twice a year. Cool Britannia, indeed,

WHY DEPUTY BECAME A NEW LABOUR WET

Danbert Nobacon explained yesterday why he had tipped a bucket of water over the Deputy
Prime Minister (right, moments
after his soaking). "It's a metaphor," he said, "for the underdog pissing on the steps of Downing Street. It is an Musion about new Labour being wonderful. They just say the same things, wear bigger smiles and sharper suits." Told that John Prescott had been moset by the souking, he simply strugged. He denied the attack had been a publicity stunt. "It was no more o in John Pres being at the Brits. They are just



Golfer sinks his | Ice-cream killers differences with , club out of court

THE High Court dispute from the Cockney rhyming between a golf chib and a slang "bubble and squeak". between a golf chib and a British Airways pilot who was expelled for making an alleg-edly racist remark at a prizegiving was halted yester-day when the two sides agreed to a settlement.

Christopher Lankey was left with a legal bill that he says could bankrupt him, and he has been barred from both the bar and course at Ealing Golf Club, Greenford, West London. However, he is free to reapply for membership land the chib said that it would consider an application im-

ed at £100,000 after accepting that the remark "man accepting The chib faces costs estimathastard, at an awards cere-mony in 1995 hosted by the former champion boxer John Contch, was not intended by Mr Lankey to be racist or offensive, and that the pilot was not a racist.

During the five-day hearing. before Mr Justice Buckley, the disputes and squabbles between members were exposed. The judge said he was happy the matter had been resolved. I think they are extremely wise and sensible to do so on both sides," he said. Mr. Lankey, 49, from Bayswater, West London, had said that he himself was y sometimes called Bubbles.



because his mother was appealed against their convic-Greek. He had made the tion for the murder of six remark about Shane Roche, members of a family in Glasgow's "ice-cream wars". Thomas Campbell and Joseph his former golfing partner, as an affectionate gibe at his Steele, who have been on bail since December 1996, were Mr Lankey had claimed his taken back to jail looking visibly shaken after their case expulsion was invalid since an improperly constituted disciplinary hearing had decided simply to reprimand him for was rejected.

the offence. He sought damages for being denied the pleasure of playing.

Malcolm Gibson, the general manager of the club, had claimed that he, rather than the board, had the power to deal with disciplinary matters and he had decided to admonish Mr Lankey severely.



handicap, he said.

Lankey: expelled over

By GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT A YEAR of freedom ended yesterday for two men who

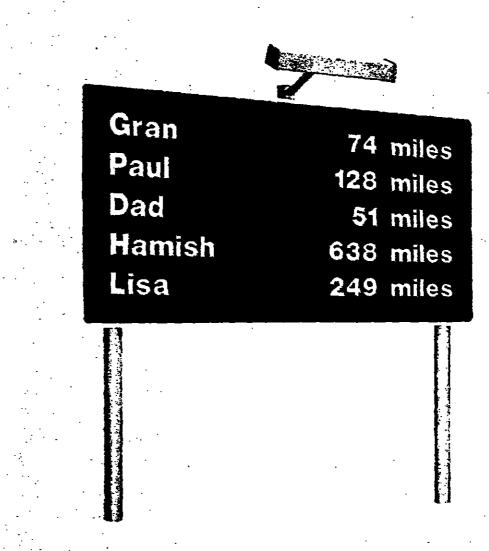
Outside the court, family and friends shouted abuse at police officers, who had to call for reinforcements. Officers formed a cordon as they waited for the men to be driven off. Steele's son, John Paul, 15, broke down in tears and said: "They have given me my Dad back for a year and now they have taken him

away from me again." Camp-bell's girlfriend, Karen Packer, 27, had a baby a week ago. The men were sentenced to life in 1984 for murdering six members of the Doyle family, including an 18-month-old baby, in an arson attack on their home in Glasgow. Yesterday at the Court of Criminal Appeal in Edinburgh, the Lord Justice Clerk, Lord Cullen, and Lord Sutherland, sitting with Lord McClusky, refused to grant the appeal. Lord Cullen said there had been "no reasonable explanation" as to why a key witness who now claims he lied during the original trial had changed

The killings were thought to have part of a war between rival ice-cream sellers in the east end of Glasgow. Camp-bell, now 45, and Steele, 36, have always denied murder. Steele drew attention to their case by scaling a tower at Barlinnie Prison and using superglue to attach himself to the gates of Buckingham Pal-

ace after escaping from jail. In 1992, a key witness. William Love, said that he had perjured himself at the original trial by inventing a conversation between Campbell and Steele, and allowing them to take the blame for his own action in shooting at a van windscreen.

In December 1996, Michael Forsyth, the then Scottish Secretary, referred the case to the Criminal Court of Appeal. The case was the first in Scotland where a witness's retraction of evidence was used as grounds for appeal. since a change in the law last year. Another 15 cases were thought to be hanging on yesterday's judgment. The men's solicitor, John Carroll, pledged that the fight to prove innocence would continue. Neither man is eligible for parole as long as they continue to campaign against the



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What can we do for you?

Judge acquits IRA bomb suspect denies the charges and remains on trial. insufficient. Prosecution suggestions

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A GARAGE owner was cleared yesterday of involvement in the IRA Docklands bomb attack after an Old Bailey judge ruled there was insufficient prosecution

evidence to continue the case. Patrick McKinley, 34, from Newry, Co. Down, was accused of conspiring to cause the explosion at London's South Quay in February 1996 which ended the IRA ceasefire. Two men were killed and the blast left damage estimated at.

A second man, James McCardle, was also accused of being involved in the plot and the murder of the two victims. He raised suspicions but suspicion alone is

During the four-week prosecution case. Mr McKinley was accused of playing a background role in the plot and taking part in the conversion of the lorry which was used to conceal the bomb.

Mr Justice Blofeld told the jury he was directing them to acquit Mr McKinley after hearing legal submissions from his counsel, Michael Mansfield, QC. As Mr McKinley watched from the dock, the judge told the jury. "I am satisfied I am bound to come to the conclusion it would be unsafe for the jury to be asked to conclude he had taken part in the conversion of the lorry bomb.

The judge said there were facts which

that two cars linked Mr McKinley to the plot were not proven. Mr McCardle, 29, from Crossmaglen

in South Armagh, told the court he had driven the lorry on the dummy run and before the attack, but had not taken part in any bomb plot. On each occasion he had driven the lorry for a neighbour, whom he called "the boss", as a job for

Mr McCardle said he knew "the boss' was in the IRA but refused to name him. He told the court: "Where I live, you don't tell people's names." He said he drove the lorry to England and handed it over at South Mimms in Hertfordshire.

The case continues

Jill Sherman on Labour's choice between TUC and CBI

THE Prime Minister is considering a compromise designed to head off his biggest confrontation with the unions since the general election.

Union leaders are appealing directly to MPs and ministers against what they see as a betrayal of a manifesto promise to increase their influence in the workplace. They claim that Tony Blair is planning to deny them the right to be recognised as negotiators on pay and conditions for workers who have voted in favour.

Tomorrow a group of Lab-our MPs will meet Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, to express concern over signs that Mr Blair is bowing to employers' de-mands to water down recogni-

A TUC delegation including leaders of the five biggest unions is also due to meet Mrs Beckett early next week to urge her to honour Labour's manifesto commitment, one of the few pledges to improve

Downing Street claims that no decision has been made but the Cabinet is believed to be split. Mrs Beckett and Ian McCartney, her deputy, support the TUC position, but the Mr Blair favours the CBI.

The row centres on the interpretation of the manifesto

unions should be recognised where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballot for the union to represent them". A White Paper spelling out trade union rights is expected to be published in April, with legislation to follow next year. But ministers are still undecided how to

interpret the election pledge.

The TUC says the wording means that unions will win recognition if the move is backed by 50 per cent of those who cast a vote. The CBI says the phrase means that recogninon must be backed 50 per cent of the whole workforce. irrespective of how many bother to vote. This would mean that abstentions would count as a "no" vote so that a 70 per cent vote in favour on a per cent turnout would result in a rejection of union recognition. It is understood that the wording in the manifesto was deliberately crafted to be open to interpretation.

Union leaders are warning that if the Government does not back the TUC's interpretation, which they say ministers agreed to before the election, they could lower or stop their donations to the party.

Yesterday Labour officials said that the Government was

wording, which says that a last resort. This would mean setting a threshold for participation in a ballot, below which it would be declared invalid. Party sources suggested this could be as high as 80 or 90 per cent of the workforce. Unions would probably consider this too high but some union leaders are said to be willing to accept the principle of a minimum turnout if they

cannot get their way. The Prime Minister had hoped that the unions would be able to come to an agreement with the CBI but officials now concede that this is al-most impossible. Mr Blair is determined not to be seen to bow to union demands but does not want an unnecessary confrontation, which could provoke a damaging rebellion by Labour MPs. He has ready been warned by the parliamentary committee that there is growing anger among backbenchers, with most sup-porting the TUC view.

Meanwhile the unions have been lobbying Labour MPs, all of whom were sent a letter by the TUC last week telling them that, if they had stood for election on the basis of the CBI's interpretation, all but 14 would never have reached the

Leading article, page 17



Hague told to polish his TV act

POLITICAL REPORTER

WILLIAM HAGUE'S television performances are causing concern among senior Tories who fear that he will never win over more voters without improving his skills in front of the camera.

Critics of his style want him to spend more time studying videos of his television appearances so that he can learn from his mistakes. One said: "He's an intelligent man — he would soon see where he is going wrong."

Shadow Cabinet members are amo those who say that Mr Hague has failed to address what one described as "the television problem" in the eight months since he became party leader. They stuffy and humourless or as a political

One complained: "He sometimes laughs at inappropriate moments, which betrays his age. He seems to lack gravitas." Another said: "Everyone who meets him in person likes him, but on television he is very wooden."

The criticisms were echoed by by Irene Nathan, president of the Federation of Image Consultants, who said that Mr Hague often appeared to television viewers as "self-important but not powerful". He was in danger of seeming slightly arrogant, she said. The first thing William Hague should do is to get a speech therapist. He comes across as too comfortable, too cosy -

There is little complaint about Mr Hague's efforts in the Commons chamber, where he is perceived by Tory MPs to be more than a match for Tony Blair. Mr Hague has also proved himself to

be an effective speech-maker. His recent after-dinner speech to the Lord's Taverners, the fundraising celebrity cricket team, was a huge success despite concern that he had to address the gathering immediately after the comedian Rory Bremner.

However, a source close to Mr Hague emphasised that television skills were vital. Television is an important medium. Everyone needs to be focusing on that. Most people these days get their news from the broadcast media."

Cabinet to back **Jackson** for mayor

By ANDREW PIERCE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR has decided to back Glenda Jackson as the Labour candidate in the Mavor of London election in an attempt to thwart the leftwing MP Ken Livingstone. Private polling by Labour

has shown that Mr Livingstone, the former leader of the Greater London Council, is well ahead among party sup-porters. But Ms Jackson, whose fame as an Oscarwinning actress will give her automatic standing on the world stage, is in second place. Ms Jackson, the Transport Minister, is said to have decided to run, although she has yet to declare her candidacy. If, as expected, the candidate is chosen by Labour activists on a one member, one vote system, she will have the full backing of the Cabinet. Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, is another possible anti-Livingstone candidate.

The Labour leadership believes that Ms Jackson, MP for Hampstead and Highgate, is the only one capable of over-hauling Mr Livingstone, who has recreated his role as champion of Labour's left-

wing rebels. It was as leader of the GLC that Mr Livingstone earned the nickname "Red Ken", having waged a war with the tory. Government and the Labour leadership. Even some Tories have welcomed the prospect of a Livingstone victory.

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Police pressure urged to make shops fight crime

By RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE should withdraw their services from businesses that fail to protect their own premises from criminals, a Home Office research group recommended yesterday.

Public houses, shops, clubs and organisations such as chools, hospitals and universities could all do more to deter or prevent crime, the group said in a report. They were not having to pay for the full cost of their failure to take adequate action, because the police bill was met by the

Police should refuse to respond to reports of thefts from shops that have persistently gnored crime prevention adrice, the report said. It gave the example of a record store in the West End of London that was responsible for 40 per cent of the arrests made by officers from the local station. The store was forced to change its disc and tape displays when police threatened to caution and release thieves rather than prosecute them. The report also recommend-

ed publishing the names of organisations that failed to tackle crime. Gloria Laycock, head of Home Office police research group, recalled yesterday how the motor industry had been "shamed" into action. "Manufacturers did not improve car security out of a sense of social responsibility but because we published the car theft index. There may be other examples where police have to get tough," she said.

The Association of Chief

Police Officers said there was nothing to stop police withdrawing services from organisations that failed to take prevention measures. refusing to turn out to commercial record of frequent false

The Home Office gave no indication of whether it supBut a report from Her Maiesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary expressed support. It said: Systematic thought needs to be given to ways in which leverage can be applied such. as public shaming, or threats of public shaming, threats to withdraw or reduce services. appeals to feelings of civic responsibility and so on."

also said that police efforts at crime prevention were largely "ineffective and wasteful". Although forces understood the benefits of crime prevention. few were properly implement-ing well-thought-out sol-

The police service did not consider Neighbourhood-Watch to have much of a role in crime prevention. Only a tifth of 43 forces had a specific

role for the scheme. However, a few forces with effective procedures were able n: to achieve significant reductions in crime of up to 15 per cent last year and up to 40 per

Tory MP launches memorial campaign

By James Landale

A CROSS-PARTY campaign to protect thousands of war memorials from neglect was launched in the Commons

yesterday.

The Tory MP David
Maclean urged ministers to consider ways of encouraging local authorities to do more to identify and maintain the monuments, many of which were damaged or badly eroded. Councils should be the "the carer of last resort" if no alternative protector could be

Mr Maclean, a former min-ister, was introducing the War Memorials Preservation Bill under the ten-minute rule: Although it has no chance of becoming law it has won support from MPs on all sides. Friends of War Memorials, a charity set up three years ago, estimates that there are at least 50,000 monuments and plaques across the country. Mr Maclean called for changes to legislation that could help to protect them, and steps to raise the necessary funds. He said: "Destruction and neglect of memorials sends the wrong signals to our Vounger generations, that war and the death it brings is of ittle importance."

IN PARLIAMENT TODAY in the Commonst from 8.30ar short backbanch debates; from 2.30pr north uncovered debetes from 2,30pm, Northern Ireland questione: Prime Minister's Cuestione: debete on Welth Revenue Support Girant Report; Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill; Lords amendmente; short debete on Irleyshem M8 Birk road. In the Lords debete on protection of the control debete on protection of the control



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to back Jackson Remains of ten bodies for mayor A. Don Franklin's home at Ben Franklin's home

The coroner is examining skeletons found beneath statesman's former

London house, says Robin Young

home of Benjamin Franklin, the founding father of Ameri-gan Independence.

The remains of four adults

and six children were discownystery is William Hewson, ered during the £1.9 million like Franklin a Fellow of the restoration of Franklin's home. Royal Society, and the hus-at 36 Craven Street, close to band of Polly Stevenson, the Trafalgar Square. Researchers believe that there could be more bodies buried beneath the basement kitchens.

Initial estimates are that the bones are about 200 years old and were buried at the time Franklin was living in the house, which was his home from 1757 to 1762, and from-1764 to 1775. Most of the bones show signs of having been dissected, sawn or cut. One skuli has been drilled with several holes. Paul Knapman. lecture theatre. Dr Knapman

WORKMEN have dug up the the Westminster coroner, sald remains of ten laddes hidden yesterday. I cannot totally beneath the former Landon discount fire possibility of a discount the possibility of a crime. There is still a possibility that I may have to hold an inquest."

The principal suspect in the like Franklin a Fellow of the daughter of Franklin's landlady, Mary Stevenson.

In the early 1770s Dr Hewson was in partnership with William Hunter, who. with his brother John, was one of the founders of British origin." surgery. Dr Hunter and Dr Hewson can a school of anatomy in Soho, but after an argument Dr Hewson left to live in Franklin's house, where he is believed to have established a rival school and



Franklin: may not have known of the burials

added yesterday: "It is most likely that these are anatomical specimens that Dr Hewson disposed of in his own house. but we are still not certain about the bones' exact age or

Evangeline Hunter-lones. deputy chairman of the Friends of Benjamin Franklin House, the charity concerned with restoring the property and opening it to the public. said: The bones were quite deeply buried, probably to

hide them because grave rob-bing was illegal. There could be more buried, and there probably are." Dr Brian Owen Smith has

volunteered to lead researches on behalf of the Friends. He said yesterday: "The discovery represents an important insight into very exciting years of medical history. Benjamin Franklin, through his support for Polly and Dr Hewson, socially and scientifically, was very much part of that."

To the suggestion that Franklin might have been a grave robber, or an accomplice to Dr Hewson, Hilaire Dubourca, of the Friends of Benjamin Franklin House, responded: "It is possible that he has an alibi. It seems likely that he actually let Dr Hewson have use of the whole house for his school for a time, and went up the street to live with Mary Stevenson. He did not necessarily know what was happening below stairs in the

house during his absence." Dr Hewson fell victim to his own researches at an early age. He accidentally cut him-

body, contracted septicemia and died in 1774, aged 34.

Franklin, who wrote the opening words to the Declaration of Independence, continued to support the widowed Polly, and when he returned to Philadelphia he invited her there to live as his neighbour. Both her sons became eminent medical men, as have successive generations of Hewsons in America.

If the first Dr Hewson did obtain bodies for his experiments and demonstrations by robbing local graveyards, he risked the death penalty or deportation. He might have had the help of his students in secretly burying the remains beneath the four-storey house, where the dissections may have been performed.

It is hoped to reopen the house to the public at the end of the year. Regular visitors during Franklin's residency included Pitt the Elder (the Earl of Chatham). Edmund Smith and Thomas Paine, the author of The Rights of Man.



Workmen unearthed the bones of four adults and six children at 36 Craven Street

Dunblane head moves to the Scottish Office

By GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

blane primary school, who dialled 999 before rushing to was hailed as a hero for his efforts to save the dying and arrived, Hamilton had killed wounded children shot by himself.
Thomas Hamilton, is taking "I burst into the gym. It was

the school on Friday at the inquiry into the shootings. start of the mid-term break to Along with other members begin a secondment to the of staff, Mr Taylor used paper begin a secondiment to the Scottish Office's schools in-spection unit.

spection unit. Mr Taylor, who was the first person to arrive in the school gynmasium after the tion and sheer helplessness." massage of to children and he said their teacher on March 15. The following day Mr Tayemotional ties with the school

and hopes to return. "It will be a considerable wrench," he said. "Obviously... the bonds I feel for this school run very deep. I will miss the children and their families. I will also miss the support of my immediate colleagues with whom I have been through so

Dunblane and its primary school and its community is, and always will be, a very

important part of my life."

Mr Taylor, who has been a teacher for 24 years, joined the school in August 1993. In 1978, aged 26, he became the yourgest head teacher in Scotland when he took a job at Kinloch-

rannoch primary school.

He was on the telephone in his office at the time that Hamilton walked into the school gyrenasium and began shooting at the children At first Mr Taylor thought the muffled beings were caused by his deputy head. Agnes

THE head teacher of Dun- in the school. Mr Taylor

a new job, it was an a scene of mimaginable car-named yesterday nage one's worst night-Ron Taylor, 46 will leave mare," he told the Cullen

nowels to stem the flow of blood from injured children and cradled the dying. "My feelings were of total devasta-

wife and has two teenage daughters, said: "Evil visited us yesterday. We don't know why, we don't understand and

I guess we never will." Mr Taylor described his move as a new challenge. He will return to the school next month to be with staff and pupils on the second anniversary of the tragedy.



Tall people's needs being overlooked

By ROBIN YOUNG

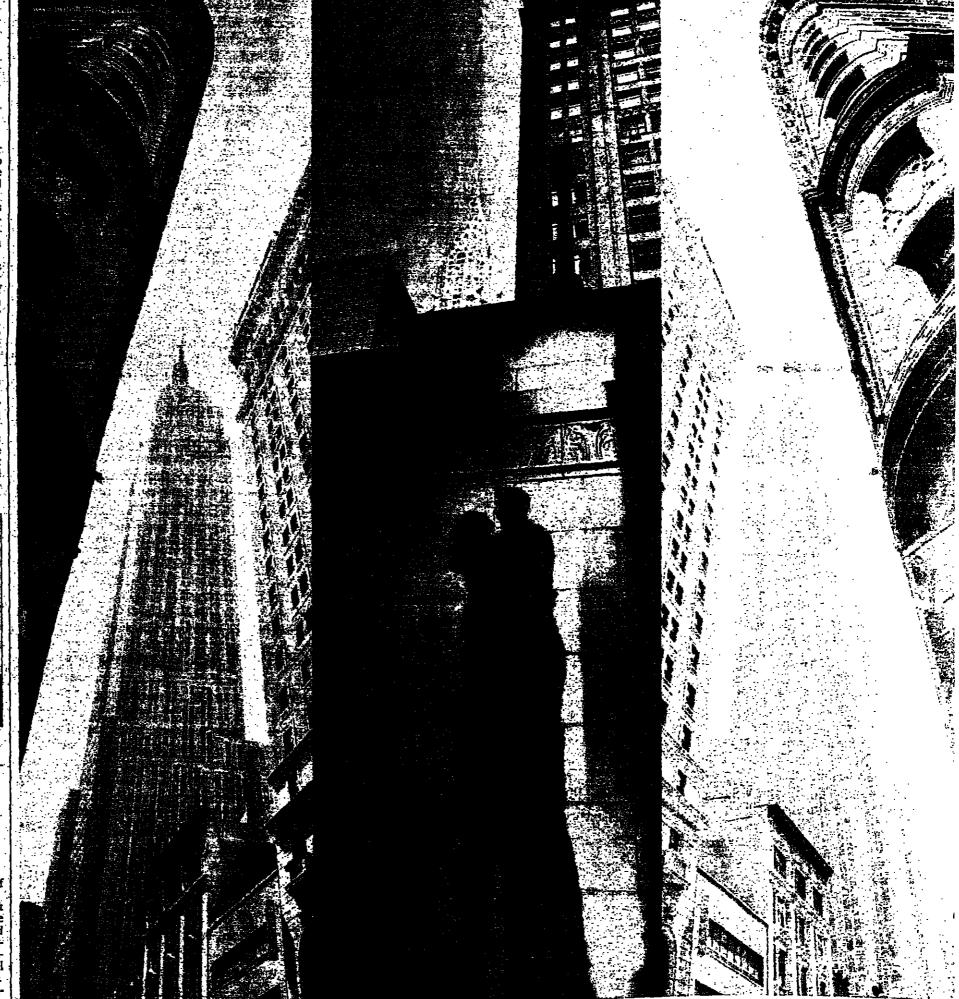
BRITISH industry has its it has also laid in supplies of head in the clouds and is overlooking the needs of a population that is growing in 8m, said yesterday that he size, the founder of the Tall hoped the convention would Persons Club said yesterday. Phil Heinricy said that while people were growing

taller by the generation, massproduced clothes and goods were based on out-of-date standards.

For the past two years Mr Heinrick's club, which has its headquarters in Hereford, has been preparing to host the annual European convention there were a few specialist for tall people. It has had to clothes shops catering for tall check that coaches have adults, the parents of tall enough leg room and that children had to pay VAT on hotels provide extra long beds. adult-sized clothing for them.

extra long T-shirts. Mr Heinricy, 45, who is 6ft raise awareness of heightrelated issues and the practical difficulties faced by tall people in their everyday lives.

This country loses 17 miliion working days each year because of backache and much of that is caused by design which fails to take account of people's additional height," he said. And while



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Why disabled dancer kept recovery secret

Robin Young reports as woman set free from court

tells how she lied after the shock of walking again

A FORMER dancer whose courage in dealing with disability made her a public figure told vesterday how she kept secret the fact that she was able to walk again. Danielle Haskell said: "I had built my life around being disabled. When I walked again, I would draw the curtains so no one could see me. I began living a lie. I became petrified."

Haskell, 34, was speaking after she went free from court for faking attacks on her flat at a time when she was supposedly bedridden. Police had set up a secret camera to film a reported stalker, but instead the camera caught her smashing up her own home before blaming it on vandals.

"I wanted to get caught so that someone else could help me with what was going on. she said yesterday. "I was on the edge of a breakdown. I never meant any harm. I had got to the point where it was either a lethal injection or I stepped outside the door and faced the world.

Haskell, from Oldham. Greater Manchester, pleaded guilty to three charges of criminal damage and wasting police time. She received a four-month suspended sentence and was also ordered to pay £450 to her landlords, a housing association, and £100 costs. Barry Cave. chairman of the Oldham Bench, said the sentence was suspended because of exceptional circum-

John Pollitt, for the defence, said Haskell had been a talented and successful dancer until she was 21, when she had been diagnosed with the progressive illness transverse mytold the chances of recovery were negligible, and was wheelchair-bound for five

Mr Pollitt said: "As a disabled person, she had become disabled rights and she was an inspiration for number of people." She was named Woman of Oldham in 1993 and had helped to raise E60,000 for spinal research.

However, she became convinced privately that she had recovered sensation in her right leg. That raised more problems than it solved. She didn't want to raise the hopes of people who were close to her, particularly her family. and she had come to terms with her disability. She felt under continued pressure to live a lie." She also felt a duty to people employed as carers. She was under continuous pressure from abusive calls.

6 I wanted to get caught so that someone else could help me with what was going on 9

and had behaved in a very bizarre" way. "She was desperate emotionally, unstable and went in search of physical help from the police and ambulance service. She is a lady who will need help in the long term.

Outside court Haskell. using two sticks to walk, broke down in tears and said: "Dancing was my world. I loved teaching dance, especially ballet. I was told I would be paralysed for ever. At one point. I was given just weeks major surgery. Most women my age are preparing to get married or building up a family home. I was planning

Then, three years ago, I

leg. I couldn't believe it. It threw my world into turmoil. it was such a shock. I wasn't sure if it was my mind playing tricks on me, but then I started getting more sensation. I told my consultant, but he just dismissed me, so gradually I taught myself to walk again. I remember standing up for the first time and then falling back on the bed. I could not believe what was happening. I would draw the curtains so no one could see me then spend hours practising. I didn't tell my parents or anyone else because I didn't want to get their hopes up. As time went on and I got better and better, I became more petrified."

During her recovery, she said, she received threatening calls and told police someone was stalking her. A panic line to her house was removed because she used it too often. Police offered to set up cameras inside and out, but she refused. "I told them I didn't want the cameras inside. They would have seen I was improving and it would have hampered my progress. But I knew they had put the cameras up. I wanted to get

She was filmed walking unaided, and breaking her intercom system, her kitchen window and her front door with a hammer. "I know what I did was wrong. I can't remember much about attacking the door or intercom. I am sorry. I never meant any

"Anyone who is disabled will tell you that you go to the pits and back many times. My illness could still put me back in a wheelchair. I just want to get on with the rest of my life. my two feet to the ground. That is a time to start celebrating what should have been a happy occasion."

Her mother, Sylvia, 57, said: "No more heartache, no more crying. Just complete joy."



Danielle Haskell yesterday. She said: "I just want to get on with my life"

Boy, 16, in third sex attack on Sussex rail line

By Adam Fresco

A BOY aged 16 has been subjected to a sexual assault by an attacker who forced him into the lavatory of a Londonbound train at knife point.
The boy had been to

Eastbourne for the day with friends and was returning home to Haywards Heath, West Sussex. As he went into the lavatory the man threatened him with a 7in knife and demanded money, then held the weapon to his throat and ordered him to strip before seriously sexually assaulting him for more than half an

The victim did not get off the train until it reached London. when he travelled back to Haywards Heath. He told his parents on Sunday evening of the attack, which took place the previous day. He was taken to a police counselling

Officers are checking closed-circuit television monitors at stations in an attempt to identify the attacker, who is described as Afro-Caribbean with a Jamaican accent, in his twenties, 5ft 10m and of athletic build. He was wearing sunglasses and a grey-patterned baseball cap.

It is the third attack on an East Sussex railway line in two weeks. A female Czech student was sexually assaulted, beaten and left for dead in the lavatory of a Hastings train, and a 15-year-old girl was raped after she left Hastings station. Police are not linking these attacks with the

Chief Superintendent Mat-

thew Saunders said yesterday that the Czech student was flown home at the weekend. "She is still poorly but she is conscious and able to speak a little bit, but is still not well enough for police to interview her," he said.

"She left hospital with a nurse and returned home in an air ambulance. Her par-ents had already left for their

The trenager, who has not been named, was found uncould be six months before she recalls what happened.

NEWS IN BRIEF 'Suicide' harassers

Five teenagers pleaded guilty at Derby Magistrates' Court to harassing a teenage girl who later apparently committed suicide. They have been told that they may face a

guilty

custodiai sentence. The group are aged be-tween 13 and 17. Kelly Yeomans, 13, and her family had been harassed at their home in Allenton. Derbyshire, in the months before she died

last September.
The youths will be sent-tenced next month. The case against a 15-year-old girl, who at an earlier hearing pleaded not guilty, was adjourned for trial in April.

Fish peacekeeper

A Royal Navy fisheries pro-tection vessel, HMS Guernsey, was patrolling the Channel last night to prevent a renewal of hostilities between Belgian and French trawlermen who clashed off Dungeness on the Kent coast.

Silver lining

The Earl of St Germans has been told by an industrial tribunal in Plymouth to make a token payment to Teresa Triscott, a housekeeper sack-ed after complaining that cleaning the family silver gave her a pain in the neck.

Line of inquiry

British Transport Police are seeking special constables for the first time, because of expansion by rail companies. About 450 will work part-time for expenses only, mainly in the evenings and at weekends at their local stations.

Blind dog's guide

A Jack Russell blinded after being stabbed in the eyes in Aveley, Essex, has come to to the council dog pound at the same time to act as his guide dog. It is hoped they can be homed together.

Wrong footed

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Holiday show turns pink in the sun

TELEVISION producers are seeking a couple to front a new holiday programme (Carol Midgley writes). There is one condition: the happy partners must be homosexual. Just Television, the independent production company behind Trial and Error, David Jessel's Channel 4 series about miscarriages of justice, says it wants a same-sex couple to make the first homosexual foray into territory

normally occupied by Judith Chalmers and Anthea Turner. They must have been together for years and have a "cosy, domestic relationship".

Jonathan Holmes, who also produced and created Channel 4's Real Holiday Show, said the likes of Julian Clary, Boy George and Sir Elton John need not apply. "We are looking for new, fresh faces," he said. "We want to discover new

talent from a couple who have been together a long time and have charactera Richard and Rudy or a Zoe and Chlor Mr Holmes said that the programme

planned for screening on Channel 4 this autumn, would be aimed at homosexuals but also designed to attract a mainstream studience. "Gay couples don't just go to

Nowt so steamy as Yorkshire folk

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE inhabitants of Yorkshire relaxed in a steam bath after a hard day long before the Romans or Scandinavians had thought of the idea, it has been discovered. Tim Laurie, an

archaeologist, has examined scores of Bronze Age "burnt mounds" in the northern Dales and dismisses the accepted explanation that they were just open air kitchens. "Of the 60 plus sites I have

found, not one has any debris from cooking. There was no pottery or flint," he said. "These depressions, I feel, were used for anything that needed hot water, including steam baths. I think they may have been used as well for cooking food, which was mainly deer and wild pig."

Mr Laurie, a quantity sur veyor from Darlington, Co Durham, has been working on archaeological projects for the Yorkshire Dales National Park for ten years. He believes the sauna sweathous were constructed from sticks and animal skin over hot

The mounds were discov ered in Ireland in the 1920s. Others have since been found in the Midlands, the Lake District and Northumber

Stuart Needham, curator of Bronze Age antiquities at the British Museum, was cautious: "I suppose sauna use is a plausible explanation," he said. "But I think cooking is a preferable one. The absence of evidence has to be viewed very carefully."

PRODUCT RECALL

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Boys who will be boys develop a taste for literature

WOMEN teachers who stop young boys playing rough games are stifling the development of their literacy skills, government advisers said yesterday. Boys should not be told off for boisterous behaviour but encouraged to develop characters and storylines in their play, the Qualifications and Curriculum Au-

For older boys, increasing numbers of schools are fostering enthusiasm for reading by using a biography of Paul Gascoigne, the footballer, the Basic Skills Agency said yesterday. The book was much in demand by schools, and was Teachers who prevent pupils from playing rough games are stifling their creativity, writes David Charter

Schwarzenegger, Marilyn Monroe and Oasis in a series endorsed by

Research for the OCA showed that female nursery and primary school staff tended to disapprove of young boys "action-packed" play. But when teachers encouraged boys to explain and develop their actions, they found that they had invented complex storylines.

The research was commissioned for the OCA's Can Do Better report

on strategies to close the gap between boys and girls in achievement in reading and writing. In English GCSE, 65 per cent of girls achieve grade C or above compared with 43 per cent of boys.

Nick Tate, chief executive of the QCA, said: "There are many primary schools with exclusively female teachers, and there is a particular responsibility on them to make sure they recognise the needs of boys as well as girls."

He added: "We know that from

the age of five onwards, the girls are doing very much better than the boys. The gap gets greater and greater, and by 16 girls are doing strikingly better in GCSEs."

Dr Tate said teachers should adapt their teaching of English so that it was integrated with boys' activities. "When boys are running around and apparently just being noisy, teachers need to draw out from the boys what they value from it so they can develop it," he said. Sue Horner, head of English at

the QCA, added: "In one study, when nursery teachers looked at how the boys were playing, they thought it was all blood and fighting, but there was actually more going on than what the

teachers first perceived."

She added: "They found that they were getting further by intervening to move the play on rather than stopping it. They found that there was just as much of a storyline as the girls sitting playing at houses. The problem was in the teachers'

Advice in Can Do Better aimed at capturing the interest of older boys includes using detective fiction by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Raymond Chandler. The QCA also said it was important for schools to check that fathers were reading with their sons in the

Surveys of boys' views for the QCA repeatedly showed a dislike for poetry, but Dr Tate said that

appeal to boys, for example Homer's flind. Dr Tate added: "It's action-packed, it has bounce and rhythm and vitality and excitement and danger. That is what is going

to get a lot of boys interested.

The Basic Skills Agency endorses a series of easy-to-read biographies published by Hodder & Stoughton, which will shortly add histories of the Spice Girls and Diana, Princess of Wales to the collection. of Wales, to the collection. Each book, which demands a reading age of six to ten, is aimed at struggling secondary school pupils or young adult readers.

Carey asks for church tax burden to be eased

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE nation's churches are heing crippled by unfair tax-ation, which is imposing impossible demands on tiny congregations in remote rural areas, the General Synod of the Church of England was told yesterday.

One congregation decided to demolish their church rather than pay the VAT that would have been due on essential repairs, the synod

Bishops have repeatedly suggested that individuals should pay more income tax to help to subsidise higher employment and other social policies. But yesterday the Church was begging for its own tax burden to be reduced. The archbishops of Canterbury and York. Dr George Carey and Dr David Hope, will visit Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, in an attempt to persuade him to cut VAT on church repairs from 17.5 per ties can compel the churches of England pay more the added: "O to the Government in VAT than the Government gives them in grant aid, the synod

Tony Redman of the St Edmundshury diocese des-cribed how the parish of South Cove in Suffolk, consisting of 17 churchgoers out of a population of 37, recently had to find £60,000 to rethatch its Grade I listed 13th-century

The village set to raise the money with remarkable community spirit and put up a brave fight to protect its church." Mr Redman said.

PRESSURES on the Nat-

ional Health Service are

hringing some areas close to

breaking point, the chief exec-

utive of its management exec-

92.000 complaints laid

against the NHS last year. Alan Langlands told the Com-

mons Select Committee on

Public Administration:

There are some parts of the

health service which at times

are working to the absolute

limit. The elastic is being

stretched sometimes to a de-

gree one can be quite worried

Mr Langlands said the vast

majority of the thousands of

patients treated daily received

good care "in extremely diffi-

cult and stressful circum-

stances ... and that reflects

enormous credit on the staff.

But sometimes things will go

utive admitted vesterday.

"They fought with flower festivals, art shows, jumble sales and craft fairs, with bonfire night parties and Christmas

They were delighted to re-ceive a grant of £15,000 from English Heritage but dismayed when £10,000 had to be returned to the Exchequer in the form of VAT.

Mr Redman said the synod

was not asking the Govern-ment to make the churches a special case for VAT. "What we are asking is for the Government, as it streamlines the present tax system, to to the nation's Christian heritage in a tangible way."

The Right Rev Colin Scott. Bishop of Hulme in the Manchester diocese, said: "Parochial church councils are obliged under church law to repair their buildings and, if they are listed, local authorities can compel them to repair

cided to save VAT by demolishing the whole church building. They decided to build a new structure which is an addition to a charitable building and, as long as they are careful about the design, it will be zero-rated." Sir Patrick Cormack, Con-

servative MP for Staffordshire South and a synod member. said: "Churches are a Mecca for tourists. They bring indirectly a great deal of money into the country. It is a great nonsense that they are paying back in VAT more than they

wrong." He blamed a num-

ber of factors, including high

organisation of the NHS and

the lack of detailed monitor-

ing procedures for the more serious complaints investigat-

failures of basic hands-on.

care and clear systems fail-ures," he said. "I can't put that

down to any one factor such

as lack of money or training.

Rhodri Morgan, the Lab-our MP for Cardiff West who

chairs the committee, des-

cribed Addenbrooke's Hospi-

tal in Cambridge and

University College London hospitals as "recidivists".

Both had had complaints

upheld against them by the

Ombudsman in the past, had

promised to do better and had

then reoffended. Mr Lang-

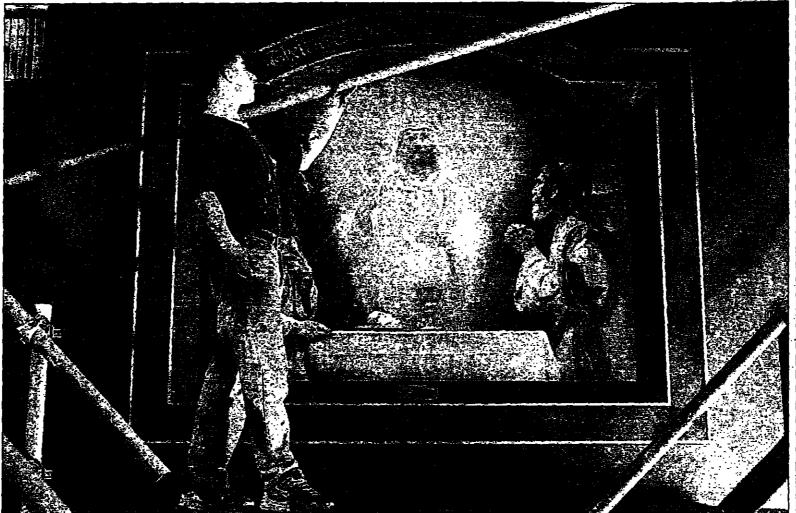
nospitals as

There are multiple factors.

There have been very clear

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

NHS stretched to limit, MPs told



Preparations start to repair St John's Church in Hoxton, East London. The synod was told of one church being demolished over a VAT bill

Christians send invitation to every home

AN INVITATION to attend local courses on the basics of Christianity is being sent to everyone in the country. designed for non-churchgoers and converts. It is free and attendance often results in long-term commitment to a

The worldwide take-up of the course has received support from across the denominations and has astonished church leaders by its success. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said: "I think it is superb. I

commend it wholeheartedly. The fact that it is an initiative from the established Church of England, the mother church of the worldwide Anglican communion, has given the course a credibility that other evangelical initiatives have sometimes lacked.

Langlands: blamed a

number of factors

land said that he could not

condone anyone who deliber-

ately made a promise of

action they had no intention

of keeping. However, govern-

ment regulations were being

brought in to change such

Ronald Campbell, Labour

MP for Blyth Valley, said he

situation

Ruth Gledhill reports on a mailshot for a

ten-week course in fundamental beliefs

The invitations are being sent by Holy Trinity Brompton, in Knightsbridge.

West London. There, the course has led to so many people turning up to church each week that the number of services are constantly increasing to cope with all the newcomers, while established members are often encouraged to join new "church plants" founded by Holy Trinity to rescue a dying or struggling

parish from extinction. Holy Trinity, which has an electoral roll of almost 700 but an average Sunday attendance of 2,000, this week disclosed in its annual report an annual income of more than £2.3 mil-

had been a member of the

committee for ten years and

things seemed to be getting

drop in standards," he said.

The cases are getting worse

than three or four years ago.

We are finding the standard

of care is far worse. People are

dving because of the low standards. It really is getting

out of hand and needs some-

one to get a grip of it. No one

wants to go to hospital to die. When they do die there seems

The Ombudsman had

found that at St George's

Hospital in London the fam-

ily of one patient had found out that he had died from the

coroner. "No doctor or nurse

got in touch with them to

so they could be with him at

the end. That was quite ap-

palling." Mr Campbell said.

"Is something going wrong with the system?"

warn them that he was dying

a lack of compassion."

lion from covenants, collections, donations and other sources, making it the wealthiest parish church in the country. However, the church, which expects to spend £743,000 on Alpha books, conferences and other resources alone next year, appeals in its annual report for a further £1.1 million in

donations to fund its ministry. The course was established at the Knightsbridge church 20 years ago. and there are now 4,000 churches running courses in Britain and overseas. At Holy Trinity, Alpha courses run throughout the year with 500

people attending each week. The campaign to invite every person

in the country to attend a local course is thought to be an unparalleled initiative from the Church of England. will be sent brochures and a promotional video, featuring the Rev Sandy Millar, vicar of Holy Trinity, and his curate, the Rev Nicky Gumbel, the architect of Alpha, explaining the

promotion. Churches will be invited to donate £100 each towards the campaign to pay for billboard advertising nationwide, nosters for church noticeboards, local newspaper advertisements and leaflets for local distribution by churches.

The campaign, to be launched in September, is expected to cost E250,000. However, one "gift day" at Holy Trinity raised E370,000 in donations and pledges. A second gift day is planned for September.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Couple's £2m win in the bin

A couple who waited until yesterday before collecting a £2.4 million Christmas Evelottery prize had thrown their wining ticket in the dustbin. Colin Stewart, an architect, and his wife Agnes, an assistant occupational therapist, from Haddington, Lothian, spending the festive season with their daughter in Germany, and then forgot to check the results.

On Monday Mr Stewart, 61, read reports of an unclaimed jackpot and recog-nised the numbers. His wife had cleaned out her handhag three days earlier. He said We must be the luckiest lottery winners yet."

Disaster relief

Relatives of disaster victims will be spared the ordeal of facing a series of investigations. As from today, in the event of inquiries by more than one prosecuting authority, they will act together in one joint prosecution.

Record pace

Tracy Edwards and her crew beat the round-the-world sailing record. Their 92ft catamaran has sailed 2,210 miles out of 32,000 in a week, ahead of the pace set by the French record holder last vear.

Assembly fault

Sainsbury's has been told by the Advertising Standards Authority to reword an adverdisement implying that one of its pizzas is imported from America. Although some ingredients come from the US, it is assembled in Britain.

Police chief guilty

David Howe former deputy chief constable of Merseyside was put on probation for 12 months by magistrates in Kendal, Cumbria, after admitting driving while more than three times over the legal alcohol limit,

Letting it slide

A boy aged 14 arrested for make an "ice slide" near his home in Selby, North Yorkshire, won an absolute discharge from York magistrates. He earlier pleaded guilty to

endangering road users. Good impression

Rory Bremner has been named showbusiness personality of the year by the Variety Club. Robert Carlyle and Kathy Burke were named best film actor and actress at the awards ceremony at the London Hilton.

Coded apology

Dusseldorf (Monchengladbach)

Munich

Tourist officials have received an apology from West Mid-lands Police after complaining that an investigation into sexual assaults was code named Operation Blackpool Police said codenames were chosen randomly by computer-

Ashworth head admits lack of experience

THE former chief executive of Ashworth Hospital, which has been at the centre of drug, pornography and child sex abuse allegations, said yesterday that she had no experience psychopathic disorders when she was appointed.

Janice Miles said that one of her first acts at the special secure hospital in Merseyside five years ago was to put patients suffering from personality disorders into one unit. Before that, they were with patients suffering from mental illnesses or learning difficulties.

after being suspended in February last year, said: "Some people said we were very brave, putting all the personany other choice at the time. When I started at the hospital. I didn't have the

expertise with psychopathic disorder patients. It was only when they were split up more that I realised the complex nature of their disorders." The continuing inquiry, which yesterday was held in London after earlier hearings

in Merseyside, has been told that patients had access to pornographic literature and videos, drugs and alcohol. It is claimed that a girl aged eight was allowed to play unsuper-vised with a sex offender.

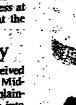
Ms Miles said that she introduced a devolved management structure and took responsibility for the day-today running of lour new units.

tension with some senior members of staff whom she refused to name.

"For some staff, life had been easy and we were putting on pressure to improve clinical practice and adopt very new ways of dealing with patients," she said. "Some found that very hard because

they had to work hard. Ms Miles said that after a period when many patients had absconded, some consul-tants had challenged her orders to cancel their leave of absence. Some patient care teams resisted instructions to search patients and their wards, and had to be reminded that they were mandatory. The inquiry, established by the Department of Health,







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De Niro: detained.

French question De Niro in vice inquiry

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

ROBERT DE NIRO, the American film actor, was detained by French police yesterday and questioned in connection with an investigation into an international prostitution ring. Mr De Niro, 54, who is

making a film in Paris. was picked up by police at the Hotel Bristol around midday and interviewed for more than six hours "as a witness". The Oscar-winning ac-

tor was brought in for questioning on a warrant issued by Judge Frédéric N'Guyen who has spent more than a year investigating an international vice network believed to involve many celebrities. After the police interview, Mr De Niro was taken to the Palais de Justice to be questioned by the judge. The inquiry has already

involved the former Polish tennis champion, Wojtec Fibak, who is under investigation for "sexual aggression", and the French film producer Alain Sarde who is facing charges of rape and attempted rape. The judge has also said he wants to interview Brigitte Nielsen,

Sylvester Stallone. Mr De Niro is in Paris for the filming of Ronin, a spy thriller co-starring Jonathan Pryce, Jean Reno and Natasha Mc-Elhone, and directed by John Frankenheimer. Filming, suspended on Friday, was expected to resume last night. Elizabeth Guigou, the

French Justice Minister, has been reported as saying that the vice investiga-tion could ruin "powerful men in several nations".

British women lead Oscar race This year's award nominations are a showcase for imported talent, with

the Best Actress award particularly likely to cross the Atlantic, writes

Giles Whittell from Los Angeles

BRITAIN'S leading ladies were the toast of Hollywood yesterday, winning four out of five Best Actress nominations for this year's Oscars. Dame Judi Dench, Kare Winslet, Julie Christie and Helena Bonham Carter completed a virtual clean sweep in their category, while The Full Monty was a surprise winner of four nominations and Titanic equalled a record that

has stood for 47 years.
James Cameron's threehour epic dominated the announcements, winning 14 nominations, including two for Mr Cameron, but the British takeover of the leading actresses

shortlist was as remarkable. Dame Judi was being talked of yesterday as a firm favourite for her portrayal of a widowed Queen Victoria in Mrs Brown, while Julie Christie's nomination may already be reward enough. After-glow, in which she plays an actress coping with

record set in 1950

her her first big role in decades. Ms Bonham Carter was nominated for The Wings of the Dove, the sumptuous British Henry James adaptation. while Minnie Driver won a Best Supporting Actress nomi-nation for her role in Good Will Hunting. The Wings of the Dove was also shortlisted for cinematography, costume design and its adapted screen-

her faithless husband, gave

play by Hossein Amini. In Titanic's wake, the year's favourite films among the 5,000 film professionals who vote on the Oscars included a pair of solid studio productions paying homage to old genres and an upstart bit that has made instant stars of two

and starring Matt Damon and Ben Affleck, won nine nominations, including one for its screenplay. LA Confidential, a "neo-noit" police thriller, also won nine nominations, while As Good As It Gets took seven. Sir Anthony Hopkins, who

plays John Quincy Adams in Amistad, was Britain's only male acting nominee in a year of show-stealing performances by Hollywood's veter-

ans. Burt Reynolds, at 61, was shortlisted for the first time for his role as a pornographer in Boogie Nights, Robert Duvail was a Best Actor nominee for The Apostle, as were Peter

Fonda (Ulee's Gold). Dustin Hoffman (a producer hired to control a presidential sex scandal in Wag the Dogl and lack Nicholson (As Good As It Gets), whose eleventh nomination broke a record he had shared with

Titanic equalled a

Lord Olivier. Yesterday brought disappointment for Steven Spielberg, whose slav-ery saga, Amistad, was ignored in the Best Film and Best Director categories. It won four nominations in all, while Jim Sheridan's critically acclaimed The Boxer, starring

ster pugilist, did not win any. None of The Full Monty's cast won acting nominations, but in an implicit recognition of their strength as an ensemble the film squeezed out Boogie Nights on the highly competitive Best Film shortlist, and won nominations for Peter Cattaneo as director and Simon Beaufoy for its screenplay.

Daniel Day-Lewis as an Ul-

This year's Oscar contenders were under lew illusions that Titanic could sweep the Good Will Hunting, a com- nominations than any film ing-of-age weepie written by since All About Eve in 1950.



Dove, and Julie Christie for Afterglow. Dame Judi Dench won the fourth of the five Best Actress nominations for Mrs Brown



مكذا من الاصل

'Titanic is titanic," Curtin Hanson, a Best Director nominee for LA Confidential, said. Leonardo DiCaprio, Titanic's youthful lead, has won the hearts of millions of Japanese teenagers but no acting nomination. Gloria

Stuart was luckier. At 87, she came out of a long retirement board, having won more to play Ms Winslet's character at the age of 101, and was nominated as Best Supporting

Actress. The pair are the first to be nominated for the same role in the same film.

British nominees in minor categories included Janet Patterson and Sandy Powell for costume design in Oscar and Lucinda and The Wings of the Dove respectively. Joanna Quinn was nominated for her Fred. Raw Nerve, an independent Londonderry film com- out between Rudolph

pany, was nominated in the Live Action Short Film category for Dance Lexie Dance, a 15-minute film about a Protestant widower who agrees to help his only daughter take up

This year's Oscars will be presented on March 23. short animated film, Famous | D New York: A bizarre and histrionic dispute has broken Giuliani, the Mayor, and the organisers of the Grammy Awards, the music industry's "Oscars", that threatens to drive the event out of New York forever after this year's ceremony on February 25 (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Irish dancing in her bid to join the cast of Riverdance. If the Grammy Awards leave New York, the city's economy could lose an estimated \$40 million (£24 million). Mr Giuliani has described award nominees.

Michael Greene, the president of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences as a "disgusting and reprehen-sible" man. This follows allegations that Mr Green, in a rage, had last month threatened to "kill" a member of the Mayor's personal staff after being upbraided by them for lailing to include the Mayor in a ceremony to announce the

Rebel daughters get \$50m each

aire sued by two of his daughters for every cent app-ears to have placated his children with an out-of-court (£31 million) each (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

New York: A Texan billionoffer of more than \$50 million

Harold Simmons, who controis one of America's largest chemicals and natural re-

sources corporations, ended a bitter legal dispute which had threatened to wreck a business empire built from scratch over 33 years.

The dispute had its origins in his complex accounting arrangements, under which he put all his money in two trusts in the names of his four daughters. But he had de facto

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control. When the taxman became wise. Mr Simmons altered the status of the trusts. requiring the daughters to sign new deeds. Two agreed; two did not. The latter sued, arguing that he was using money from the trusts to shower jewellery on his wife. who is not the mother of the litigious daughters.

Starr calls mother of Lewinsky to testify

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

IN A new display of strongarm tactics, Renneth Starr, the independent counsel, yesterday subpoenaed Monica Lewinsky's mother to reveal her daughter's confidences provoking outrage from legal commentators.

Lewis to give evidence to the grand jury which could be used in criminal charges against her daughter a "dirty" manoeuvre. Under American law, although spouses are protected against having to testify against each other. parents and children are not. Ms Lewinsky's mother was expected to appear before the grand jury yesterday after-noon. The lawyer for Ms Lewinsky last night called for her summons before a grand jury tomorrow to be quashed.

old former White House trainee at the heart of the sex and perjury storm surrounding President Clinton. She is not going to jail". William Ginsburg. Ms Lewinsky's lawyer, said, as pressures on his client mounted. "Nobody's going to abuse her. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Midland's mortgages are subject to security and status. A charge will be taken over the property and appropriate life policyless. For a written quotation call 1800 494 999. Lines open 9am-8pm Mon-fri. Calls may be recorded and monitored for service quality purposes. Midland Bank plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and only advises on its own life assurance, pensions and unit trusts. CE/87 Member HSBC Group

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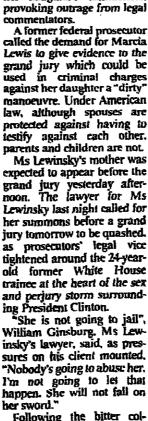
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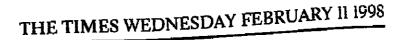


I'm not going to let that happen. She will not fall on her sword." Following the bitter col-lapse of talks between Ms Ginsburg and Mr Starr about the terms on which Ms Lewinsky would voluntarily give testimony, both sides are now preparing for a courtFor your free home buying guide, complete and return the coupon to: Midland Bank pk Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss/Other (please specify)

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Robin Cook makes his way to a Cabinet meeting at No 10 yesterday before making a Commons statement on Iraq

Cook rules out compromise flexibility that stops us from doing

BY PHILIP WEBSTER. POLITICAL EDITOR. AND MICHAEL BINYON

ROBIN COOK yesterday disclosed the West's readiness to hit at President Saddam Hussein's power base in Iraq as he issued a warning to the United Nations that there could be no compromise on demands for the opening up of all

weapons sites. The Foreign Secretary told MPs that Saddam should be under no illusion that if military force was required, "the military force that keeps him in power will be hit

He was responding to a strongly supportive intervention from John ajor. Prime Minister at the time of the Gulf War, who told him that the West decided to target Saddam's Republican Guard the Commons should back the action. Saddam was a "psychopath without conscience".

In his first Commons intervention since the election last May, Mr Major said that there must be no concessions to Saddam. Mr Major said that if it was necessary to use military force then the Foreign Secretary "will deserve the support of this side of the House and I hope he will get it".

He said that such action should not just be of a kind which would be successful in the short term "but which will limit Saddam Hussein's ability to play these games with the international community in the future". Mr Major said: "If that requires the difficult decision to

BRITAIN

sustains his evil regime within his country, then if such targeting is carried out, it would deserve the support of this House."

Mr Cook told him that the nature the regime they were dealing with could be better understood by the realisation that in the past two months the regime had "cleansed" its prisons by executing every

prisoner serving more than 15 years. Saddam does keep himself in power through fear and through

Mr Cook appeared to rebuff calls from Koli Annan, the UN Secretary-General, to help Saddam back down without losing face. There were differing interpretations over whether that amounted to a call for a compromise, but Mr Annan had urged "flexibility".

Interviewed on BBC Radio 4's

Today programme, Mr Annan insisted on the need to offer the Iraqis a way out to avoid military confrontation. They have painted themselves into a corner and we need to work with them to get them to back down." he said. "But I think

The objective of this exercise is to make sure we find these weapons and dismantle these weapons. Any CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE

that leaves us with an agreement that is not worth having." Ministers believe such calls for solely diplomatic solutions can only be counter-productive. Mr Cook said the best prospect for a diplo-

matic solution was to leave Saddam in no doubt of Western we should not insist on humiliating resolve if he persisted. "He would be making a major miscalculation But Mr Cook told the Commons: if he mistook our reluciance to use force with a lack of determination to use it if necessary."

However Tony Blair, in a television interview with Cable News Network, did impress all sides in the dispute of the "very, very great responsibility" he carried as he contemplated the prospect of ordering British servicemen and women into combat for the first time. "You're not dealing with a demo-cratically elected leader." the Prime

Minister said.

You're dealing with an utterly unscrupulous dictator who has murdered many of his own people and, though it is a huge responsibility—and I cannot tell you how seriously it weighs upon me—1 believe we are justified if he won't come back into line and allow the weapons inspectors to do their job."

Mr Cook telephoned Madeleine Albright, the American Secretary of State, last night to discuss the international efforts to get an agreement with Iraq. Whitehall officials said he intended to keep in close touch with her, even during a visit to Panama, the Bahamas and Montserrrat that begins today.



An irreverent view of the Gulf stand-off by Heng, in Singapore's Lianhe Zaobao newspaper

Leading article, page 17

Iraq drives a wedge between EU partners

s the clock ticks towards a A possible strike on Iraq. President Saddam Hussein can already claim one victory: the crisis has caused friction between France and Germany and made a mockery of the European Union's attempts to adopt a single voice abroad. The Brussels foreign policy machine, bolstered in the Treaty Amsterdam and now under London's chairmanship, has been kept out of the Iraqi crisis as France and Britain have chosen different camps, with the other EU states strung out between their two positions.

While Britain has joined the US task force. France - the only other EU member on the UN Security Council - has opposed any military action. Helmut Kohl. the German Chancellor, went a little the military path at the German airfields available in the

Saddam has made a mockery of Europe's

search for a common foreign policy,

write Charles Bremner and Roger Boyes

promptly declared by Bonn to be a political, not a military, concession. But it has already created tension with France.

"By contrast with Blair's martial posturing. Kohl included in his offer of airfield access some admonitions and cautions against a new Gulf war and its consequences," said the Cologne Stadt Anzeiger.

The distate for Mr Blair's performance in Washington is shared by some German foreign policy makers. The problems were always there, but they came to the surface with Tony Blair's visit to the "The British Prime Minister seems to have forgotten about the Euro-

pean presidency - there was a diplomatic breakdown."

The daily Frankfurter Rundschau published a long editorial on this apparent oversight: Has anyone seen the incumbent President of the European Union? Blair has more important things to do at present than lead his European flock towards joint action."

t is plain that the Chancellor was under-briefed before his weekend meeting with William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary. The offer of German air improvisation. The Americans came to the Munich Wehrkunde

conference on Saturday expecting the outline of a joint European policy, and found nothing.

The dispute on the means to be used against Saddam is more detrimental than anything that Baghdad itself is doing in the way of obstruction." thundered the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. Saddam wins the first round the allies are wrestling more with each other than with him." said the conservative Die Welt, adding: The American mistake is the failure to make the simple connection clear between limited action

and limited aims." Germany's willingness to cooperate has been welcomed in Britain. But it has caused consternation in Paris, which is already worried about strains in the EU's core partnership. "Kohl risks opening a north-south division in rope over Iraq," said a French

pers are calling the "American-British punitive expedition". Much amazement greeted a claim on Sunday by George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, that Britain was "flying the European flag in the Gulf".

Thile continental commentators are largely hostile to involvement in what is seen as an American adventure, the EU's 12 other Governments have been keeping as quiet as possible. Italy, in anti-American mood after last week's cable car disaster involving a US aircraft, has indicated that it will not allow Gulf operations from

bases on its territory.
On a tour of the Middle East. Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, deplored the EU's "non-existence" over Iraq but said Europe had no alternative but to defer to "the lead United States" and the UN.

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JIM HOLLANDER - REUTERS

Stalling Saddam invites British **MPs**

- FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

IRAQ has stepped up its diplomatic, offensive to forestall an American attack by inviting foreign politicians, including eight British MPs whom it says are opposed to force, to visit Baghdad.

Reports also said President Saddam Hussein had taken steps to protect his elite force from American and British airstrikes by readying schools and government buildings to serve as barracks for the praetorian guard.

Targeting the Special Republican Guard in densely populated areas could result in heavy civilian casualties and any horrific footage would promptly be beamed worldwide. Many foreign television crews, including those from leading American networks, have arrived in Iraq after the authorities eased visa re-

strictions on the media. The invitation to foreign politicians to visit Iraq came from the foreign affairs bureau of the rul-

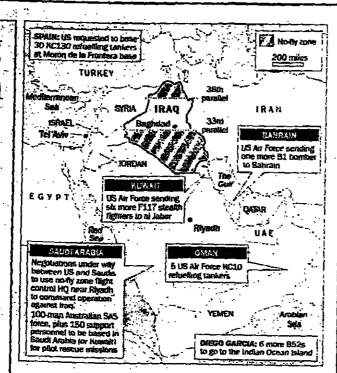
BAGHDAD

ing Baath Party, which said they would be briefed on "Iraq's position towards the current crisis which was manufactured by the United States". The politicians would be

shown the suffering paused by seven years of sanctions imposed after he Gulf War in 1991. They could discuss the "dangers of the American threats of new military aggression gainst Iraq and the negaive repercussions to regonal security".

Saadoon Hammadi, the raqi parliamentary peaker, sent a separate hvitation to eight British ejected the use of force. They were not named, but re certain to include leftving Labour MPs such as am Dalyell and George

Both Washington and ondon, waiting for signs bat Saddam is preparing genuine climbdown and noval of curbs imposed n United Nations wearins inspectors, will regard he invitations to the MPs ind global politicians as a haracteristic stalling



US presses Saudis for access to desert HO

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE United States is urging Saudi Arabia to allow the command headquarters for raids on Iraq to be set up near Riyadh, despite the country's opposition to military

Senior State Department officials are now engaged in talks with the Saudis with the aim of forwardbasing elements of US Central Command HQ from Tampa in Florida to Eskan, outside Riyadh, in preparation for military strikes.

Talks are also going on with other countries in the region, including Kuwait and Bahrain, for alternative However, the American military

says the most suitable facilities are at Eskan because an existing command centre there which currently controls all lights involved in the no-fly zone "Southern Watch" oper-

COALITION

both American and allied aircraft. day by US military sources as "diplomatically sensitive" because of Saudi Arabia's reluctance to support offensive operations from its territory.

allow the Eskan HQ to co-ordinate the raids but that they would also let "support aircraft", such as air refuelling tankers, take off from Saudi bases.

offensive operation.

ation over Iraq can already handle The talks were described yester-

. The US military sources said they hoped the Saudis would not only

At present the Eskan centre is used to co-ordinate hundreds of sorties carried out each week over southern Iraq. The centre was first established for the Gulf War operation in 1991 and was then modified to run the no-fly zone mission. The communications are highly sophisticated and capable of running a big



The US sources said that, if the talks failed, it would still be possible to run the operation from Tampa, but for a mission of the size being planned against Iraq it would be more effective to co-ordinate action from within the region.

It would also be possible to have a command headquarters "affoat" on one of the US aircraft carriers in the Gull, although this would not be ideal, the sources said.

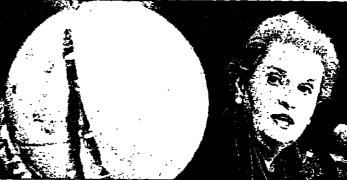
A US Air Force official said that the centre at Eskan already had sufficient staff to run a large operation, although more personnel from Central Command would be expected to move in, if the Saudis agreed. There are also offices in Riyadh linked to the Eskan HQ.

Pentagon officials said vesterday there were no plans at this stage to move combat planes based in Saudi Arabia to anywhere else in the Gulf. indicating that there remains a possibility that the Saudis will finally back military action. Portugal has meanwhile auth-

orised the Urcled States to use the Lujes airbase in the mid-Atlantic Azores islands in any anack on Iraq. a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said yesterday. Tanker aircraft operating from Lajes retuelled hundreds of planes during the 1991 Gulf

Asked about the Saudis, William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, now on a whistle-stop tour of the Gulf states, said: "I believe we will have all the support that is necessary to carry out whatever plans need to be carried out." As the talks continued, other

countries joined the US-British preparations for military action. Australia and Canada both said they were prepared to send troops.



Madeleine Albright addressing the US Senate yesterday

Australia is to send 250 troops to the region, including about 100 SAS soldiers who are specialists in covert search and rescue operations. British SAS troops are already understood to be in the region for similar mussions to prepare for the possibili-

ty of allied aircraft being shot down. Canada said it would supply a frigate, two Hercules transport uircraft and 400 military personnel. A Canadian frigate. HMCS Toronto. has been ordered to steam from the Mediterranean and should arrive in the Gulf within about two weeks.

There were reports that Spain was considering allowing the US to station 30 air refuelling tankers at a southern base. Germany also said it would contribute to the allied action. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, took the Administration's message to Capitol Hill, again reiterating that Saddam would shoulder sole responsibility for any military action taken by the US Britain and the two Commonwealth

Exiled opposition groups say military strike would strengthen dictator

By MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE main tract opposition group said yesterday that a military strike would only leave President Saddam Hussein stronger and more venge ful. Instead the West should back policies that would lead

to his overthrow. The London-based Iraqi National Congress, an umbrella grouping of 19 opposition factions, has warned the

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British and American Governments that airstrikes would achieve nothing on their own. "What is the overall strategy? The war aims are hazy and fuzzy. Ahmed Chalibi, president of the group's executive council, said. "Saddam will survive, the Unscom inspec-tors will be thrown out and thousands of Iraois will be killed. What is the West planrevolution inside Iraq would

The ailies had to insist on a no-drive zone in northern and southern Iraq, as well as a nofly zone. Unable thus to control huge areas of the country. Saddam would swiftly face rebellion from the army units in these areas. They would

ning to do after that?" Only then be joined by the Republi-military action supporting a can Guard. Dr Chalibi also called on the West to declare Saddam a war criminal, withdraw recognition of his Government and accept his group

as a government-in-exile, giving it access to frozen Iraqi assets. This would focus the opposition to Saddam, Army units would quickly defect if they knew that Saddam was not able to send troops or planes into rebellious areas, Otherwise all the generals plotting rebellion would be killed, as they had been in the

The congress has suffered from squabbling especially between the two main Kurdish groups, headed Massoud Barzani and Jalal Talabani. Dr Chalibi admit-

es, but said that all factions accepted democracy, pluralism and free elections. He said the congress was a credible opposition: it had lighting experience and was based in Sulaimaniya in the north for tour years until 1996. In 1995 it

had been ready to start an

uprising with defecting army

units, but was told by the

Americans: "You're on your own." He accused Washington of still preferring Saddam to a vacuum in Iraq because Americans feared Iranian in-

fluence in the south. He noted bitterly that the West had refused to back any uprising. Iraqis felt betrayed by the West's failure to help in 1991 at the end of the Gulf War and again in 1995.

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PLO bans AVERAGE violent pro-Iraq current accounts marches tren't in the habit of giving you

THE Palestine Liberation Organisation yesterday banned violent pro-Iraqi demon-strations in the self-rule areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip after warnings by Israel that the increasing solidarity protests were making a nonsense of the peace process.

The ban, in contrast to open PLO support for President Saddam Hussein in the 1991 Gulf War, was imposed after a spate of marches led to clashes with Israeli troops and repeated flag-burnings.
"Oh Saddam, hit Tel Aviv

with your missiles and chemicals all the way," chanted thousands of Palestinian demonstrators in one march

ISRAEL

in the West Bank town of Jenin. Earlier, 15 people, including three journalists, were wounded when Palestinians protested in Bethlehem. "We have issued orders

banning all demonstrations and marches which result in violent acts and disturbances such as burning flags," said Major-General Ghazi al-Jabali, the PLO's police chief in the West Bank and Gaza.

Panic inside Israel about alleged military unprepared-ness for any Iraqi chemical or biological attack has claimed its first victim. Malcha Shalom, 35, a pregnant mother of seven, fell to her death from a balcony while trying to get into her old flat to find gas masks which had been left

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Diana's public airing of 'marital woes' shocked Jackie Onassis

the United States claims Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, once an admirer of Diana, Princess of Wales, grew to dislike her. According to Jackie After Jack: Portrait of a Lady by Christopher Andersen, "Jackie's opinion of Princess Diana underwent a gradual change from admiration to sympathy to disapproval". caused largely by the "spectacle of the Princess disembowelling herself in public over the breakdown of her marriage to the Prince of

The book quotes Jamie It was this intelligence, allied to Auchinioss, the half-brother of Mrs her connections, that helped Mrs

Admiration waned as Princess bared her

soul to media, writes Tunku Varadarajan

Onassis, as saying: "Jackie ad-mired Diana at first. She saw publishers Viking and Doubleday. something of her younger self in the Princess. Both women were very young when they were thrust centre stage and, despite difficult marriages, grew into their roles.

But Jackie was much brighter
than Diana — more intellectual,

certainly better educated." It was this intelligence, allied to

She was promoted to senior editor at Doubleday in 1982 and promptly set to work trying to persuade the Princess to participate in a possible book project. However, according to the book Mrs Onassis's overtures were rebuffed by Bucking-

ham Palace. In fact, the author says that he doubts whether Mrs Onassis's correspondence regarding a book approach to this, they differed greatly." by her Palace handlers.

But the elder woman's affection for the younger was still undimmed. The author quotes an unnamed colleague of Mrs Onassis from the publishing world: "Early on, Jackie respected Diana for rising to the occasion after her

"She thought Di was beautiful, elegant, charming, very stylish, and a wonderful mother. Diana and Jackie also shared the problem of having to cope with powerful, philandering husbands. In their

It was this difference in "approach, in fact, that led to Mrs Onassis's disillusionment with the Princess. The author writes: "Diana's dissatisfaction had been written on her face for years before she took the unprecedented action of airing her marital woes in the press. In contrast, Jackie felt her marriage to Jack was sacrosanct:

She wore a mask." Oleg Cassini, an old friend of the Kennedys, is quoted as saying that Mrs Onassis's "natural dignity" prevented her from taking her problems outside the family. Mr Cassini said: "She was a woman of great pride. If she and Jack had had a fight ten minutes before, she never would have shown it." The book cites Mr Cassini as saying that Mrs Onassis was Turned off the spectacle of Diana

disembowelling herself in public.

Mrs Kennedy would never have done that. Jackie was of sterner stuff made."

The book also reveals that, despite her glittering social status, Mrs Onassis was a disaster as a commissioning editor. She tried and failed to sign up Greta Garbo.

Katharine Hepburn, Bene Davis, Barbara Walters, the musician Prince, Ted Turner, Rudolph Nureyev, and even her old friend Frank

Apparently, she also tried to sign up Camilla Parker Bowles, offering her \$2 million to write her memoirs for Doubleday. But like so many others, she too said no.

□ Jackie After Jack Portrait of a

Lady, by Christopher Andersen.

William Morrow, New York.

Death of a Process. pages 14 and 15

Prince views hidden kingdom



BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales's visit has put the eccentric mountain state of Bhutan, last of the Himalayan Buddhist king-doms, on the map. He is among a choice few allowed to cast an eye over its culture, a centuries-old relic preserved by official decree.

Tucked in the mountains between India and Tibet, the Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon pursues a policy of isolation to save it from the environmental and cultural destruction visited on the rest of the region by tourists and millions of migrating, landhungry Nepalese.

King Jigme Singye Wang-chuck, 43, is as hated by Nepalese as he is revered by most Drukpas, the dominant ethnic group of Bhutan, who are expected to live by a code of conduct that governs almost every aspect of daily life from how to dress in public to the proper form of everyday greeting. Their language. Dzongkha has been declared

the only official language. Television is banned: when wealthy members of the tiny aristocracy erected satellite dishes the King banned them as well. Political parties are outlawed, although parliament is elected and has even been known to question the



The Prince of Wales meets King Wangchuck of Bhutan in Thimphu on the second of his four days in the isolated Buddhist kingdom

one newspaper, Kuensel, is government-controlled and reminds people of the peril of the Nepalese masses who supposedly want to plunder the virgin forests and plough the land. The rivers abound with fish and there is almost no

it is a country herders, 300-year-old monastic fortresses, orange orchards and fields of cardamom. There is polygamy and polyandry: several brothers might take the same wife to save splitting King, but very gently so. The a farm. The King has four

President Clinton with his chocolate labrador pet

wives, sisters who live in separate homes, which he visits in rotation from his log house in the hills. Each wife has produced two children. "Even though I have four wives. I have a happy home life," he once told me.

He has threatened to abdicate if he fails to solve the "southern problem" - the occupation of the fertile south by ethnic Nepalese, many of whom have been there for generations. Parliament ordered the expulsion of all Nepalese who were unable to prove

they had lived in the country before 1958, leading to accusa-tions of ethnic cleansing. About 100,000 Nepalese have been forced out, many to UN refugee camps in Nepal. Some have helped to organise acts of violence inside Bhutan, including the destruction of

expected to embrace the culture of the Drukpas, who are of Tibetan descent. "We are trying to bring our people of southern Bhutan into the mainstream, politically, so-

cially and economically," the King said. "Our culture and traditions provide us with a unique identity to help us to protect our sovereignty. That is why we give so much attention to them. Otherwise we will not survive."

King Wangchuck, who sucter in 1972. 1 School in Sussex and Heather Down at Ascot, where he knew Prince Andrew. He is unstoppably garrulous: the Prince of Wales probably found it hard to get a word in.

During his visit, the Prince attended a reception by some 50 members of the British community working in Thim-phu, officials said. Speaking to the members at the reception. the Prince of Wales praised Bhutan's efforts to keep its

ancient traditions intact. Prince as saying: "Bhutan is one of the few countries left in the world which is incorporating tradition and culture into modern life. This country is a great example of sustain-

IMF tells Mugabe to respect law

WORLD IN BRIEF

Harare: Michel Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, has written to President Mugabe of Zimbabwe insisting that his Government make a public commitment that it will adhere to the law and the Constitution in implementing his controversial plan to seize 1,480 white owned farms (Jan Raath writes).

Western diplomatic sources said yesterday that M Camdessus had asked Mr Mugabe to ensure that a senior government official issues a "public and official statement" by next month, when the IMF governors consider Zimbabwe's application for a \$174 million (£108 million) loan urgently needed to help to stave off economic collapse.

Panic spreads in Freetown

Frectown: Thousands of civilians fled into the centre of Freetown after fierce battles erupted between the local army and West African peacekeepers on the outskirts of the Sierra Leone capital. Roads out of Freetown were cut off by Nigerian-led peacekeepers whose officers confirmed that an offensive had begun to evict the military junta led by Major Johnny Paul Koroma which toppled the elected Government last May. Nigeria accused fighters loyal to President Taylor of Liberia of backing Major Koroma. (Reuters)

China deports dissident

Beijing: China has deported the US-based dissident Wang Bingzhang, right, who slipped back into the country two weeks ago from Macau to form an opposition party.
Three of four dissidents held on
suspicion of joining his effort were
also freed. Mr Wang's brother and
officials at the US Embassy confirmed he had arrived in Los
Angeles from Shanghai. He was on
a list of activists refused entry into China. (AFP)



Tribal rebels pledge peace

Ragrachhari, Bangladesh: Caged pigeons were liberated and white roses exchanged in a gesture of peace yesterday a: Banini redels turned in their pledging to end a 20-year separatist campaign in Bangla desh's southeast Chittagong Hill Tracts (Ahmed Fazl writes) The surrender of arms came after a peace treaty between Government and rebels last December, which granted regional autonomy to the 500,000 indigenous tribal people.

Engine failure caused crash



Moscow. The crash of a giant military cargo aircraft, left, that killed dozens of people in Siberia last December was caused by engine failure linked to a faulty design, Anatoli Kornukov, Russia's Air Force commander, said yesterday. Three of the four engines on the Antonov 124 shut down seconds. after it took off from an airport near Irkutsk. The aircraft crashed into a residential area, killing at least 69 people. (AP)

Schindler widow wins cash

Buenos Aires: The widow of Oskar Schindler, the playboy German industrialist who rescued 1,000 Jews from the Holocaust, has been granted a £600 monthly pension by the Argentine Government. Emilie Schindler, 90, had complained of poverty after living in the country in anonymity for 50 years before Steven Spielberg filmed her husband's story in Schindler's List. (Reuters)

Buddy breeder cashes in on puppy love IN WASHINGTON THE publicity lavished on Buddy since he entered the White House has found its

most commercial expression as the breeder of President Clinton's chocolate labrador attempts to auction the dog's unborn siblings to the highest

Linda Renfro, owner of Wild Goose Kennels in Maryland, has joined forces with Brad Larkin, an Internet entrepreneur who runs the Buddy website, to sell a litter of puppies bred from the famous will be getting a puppy who is a full-blooded sibling to one of the most famous dogs in the world, how much are you willing to pay for your pup-py?" the Internet site asks prospective buvers.

Two of the puppies, expected next month, have already been promised and, as the size of the litter remains unknown, the fine print offers no guarantee that applicants will be successful. "Nor can we guarantee gender or colour of the pups," says the kennel where Buddy was born last

labrador's parents, Sadie and Cocoa. "Recognising that you and Cocoa could be black, chocolate, brown or yellow." Applicants are asked to supply details of credit history and Mr Larkin will even

check for criminal records.

An original minimum bid of \$1,000 (£613), double the market price for a pedigree labrador, has since been removed amid criticism from other breeders who claim the kennel is trying to exploit

'i feel like a dog is worth whatever the market will bear," said Mr Larkin, whose services were hired by Ms desirable homes for the new

While some labrador breeders claimed yesterday that it was inhumane to breed a dog more than once a year, Ms Renfro said Sadie, declared by a vet to be fit enough to give birth again, is unlikely to have further litters.

"I'm trying to weed out people who want a dog to breed it to death because it's related to Buddy," she said. "Money is not the object. Nothing would suit me better than if a sick child could get one of these puppies."



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Black sheep plays the white knight



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The Assilt

As Britain mobilises RAF Tornados and Royal Navy carriers in the Gulf, Valerie Grove finds Defence Minister George Robertson thoughtful and reassuring

t the age of 15, a pupil at Duncon Grammar, George Robertson stood on the pier at Holy Loch the grim Polaris missile base, shouting CND slogans. At 51 he is Secretary of State for Defence, deploying combat-ready British troops for imminent strikes against

He makes a virtue of the paradox: the underlying "commitment to make the world safer" is lifelong. CND politicised him, but by the time he had graduated he had adopted a more realistic view of "a . world that often teeters on the edge of self-destruction".

It was his anti-unilateralism that, under old Labour, lost him the job of opposition defence spokesman In his office, he points out that we able life, Opposition. So I spent

'We want

diplomacy

to work.

Butifit

doesn't,

we're ready'

sit on Winston Churchill's green leather furniture, repatriated by Michael Heseltine from the old War Office. It lends a consciousness of the recent past: "We've learnt from history that appeasing dictators is not a productive or safe way of dealing with them. Saddam's threat is real, and so is ours, if he doesn't comply. We mean business."

He didn't like my describing the mood of the moment the handgun ban: There is a clearas belligerent. That assumed aggression. He offered "firm" and "determined", pursing his tiny mouth "We will only use force when all else fails, and in

There is something reassuring about a Defence Secretary of square, solid build and Scots vowels. George Islay Macneill Robertson was born on Islay, the tranquil Hebridean island famed for hill-walking and malt whisky. His grandfather, his father, his brother and one of his sons all went into the police force "I am the black".

sheep of our lamily. missed the ferry and was put up in one of the cells; Mrs Robertson served him breakfast in the morning!"And when he signed the book, the name "Eric Blair" didn't mean anything to us." Orwell was writ-

ing 1984 at the time.

Mr Robertson's first encounter. with the Ministry of Defence was memorable. On January 19, 1976, a wild night, a Royal Navy Land Rover carrying a mine disposal team and explosives hit him head-on on Drumochter Pass. If I hadn't worn my seathelt I'd have been dead. Lucky? I don't think hicky is a sufficiently expressive phrase It was miracidous.*

He produces from his wallet a

faded picture of his car, its chassis completely crushed. "It's an antidete to ever feeling depressed. I quite like being alive and kicking. I was always a believer in searbelts

but I became a crusader." So he is chairman of the Seatbelt Survivors Club, one of many committees he involved himself in during 18 years in opposition. "Last night I was briefing my opposite number George Young and com-miserating with him: it's a miser-

> those years making international contacts, and among my contemporaries on the sherpa circuit were several people who, like me, are now defence ministers." Dunblane, where his

wife Sandra and his home are, remains a painful memory. His three children had attended the primary school where the massacre took place. He camdistinction between civil ownership

of handguns and military and police use of firearms, to protect and deter. Robertson might have expected to be Scottish Secretary, the portfolio he'd held for four traumatic years in Opposition "You're not given a menu card by the Prime Minister and asked, what would

ut parliamentary col-leagues tell him he has the best job in the Gov-· 5 syear he could not have named all police station. One night a man. Illustrious and the new Ark Royal). Now, at the top of the chain of command, and "the second largest landowner in Britain. he speaks with a ferocious pride of the skill. dedication and adaptability of our

> They may have been cut by a third - "the British Army could almost fit into Wembley Stadium"
>
> — but their professionalism remains. "We pay our troops very



Standing firm: George Robertson's lifelong commitment to "making the world safe", ranges from youthful CND activist to Defence Minister controlling Britain's response to Iraq

little attention until trouble starts. But since the Cold War ended they've never been busier: Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Angola, Zaire, the Gulf. They were the backbone of the operation against indicted war criminals in Bosnia, using the techniques learnt in Northern Ire-

land," he says.

Robertson is a camera fanatic: you can see his work in the current parliamentary photographic exhibition. Ten years ago he showed his pictures of Iraqi Kurds who had been gassed by Saddam. He met them at a refugee camp on the Syrian border. These were hard people, some of them guerrilla fighters," he says. "They'd been shot, bombed, strated by planes, starved, everything had been thrown at them, but this was different people dropped in the street, victims of 'the bombs with no voice'. The sheer horror of what they saw was in their faces."

Last weekend he met Bill Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, in

Munich for the Wehrkunde security conference. Cohen once remarked to him that he felt squeezed

"He said: 'One minute people say the Americans are too powerful, but when we say well, we'll take some of our troops home' they say. wait a minute, we do want the American presence to continue'. I told him the old Scottish political expression if you can't ride two horses, why are you in this circus?" So every time he comes on the phone he says 'How many horses

Robertson sees the building of new links across old barriers as his greatest challenge. In November he was aboard a Ukrainian Navy frigate in the Black Sea for the signing of a co-operation agreement with Russia. They sailed past Balaclava and arrived at Yalta harbour at midnight. A huge crowd of spectators gathered, from a nearby fairground. I said to General Oleksandr Kuzmuk the larger-than-life Ukrainian Defence Minister, covered in stars and medals, 'Isn't it amazing, all these people, and they haven't a clue why we're here'. So he said 'let's go and tell them.' Alastair Campbell was 3,000 miles away: we just plunged into the crowd and got a great

cheer. The symbolism struck me forcibly: the Crimea. Yalta, the Polish and British Defence Ministers, and a former Red Army tank driver, addressing a crowd together -- making our continent safer. "When you can tell a joke in the company of Russian top brass, and get everyone laughing together, it's

a big step forward." uch is his faith in these bonds, he has created a defence diplomacy initiative. "A colonel in the British Army has an important bond with a colonel in the Ukrainian Army. They speak the same

language. If they tell each other

there is nothing to fear, it will be

much more effective than politicians, diplomats or journalists."

The role of defence attache

should not be a retirement posting but a military task "to set about the disarmament of the mind". He is all for getting British and Iraqi troops together, and cites a Glaswegian officer he met with the United Nations force on the Kuwait-Iraq border. He'd been captured by the Iraqis, and yet had gone back for the third time "because he's an Arabic speaker and likes the Iraqi

As Robin Cook says, when we sit in the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, in a room the size of Earls Court - Kohl, Chirac, Blair, Shevardnadze, the Slovaks, the Armenians, the Azeris all in alphabetical order, so we sit with the US on one side and the Ukraine on the other - 'It's better to send middleaged men abroad to bore each

to kill each other'." Dismissing Boris Yeltsin's Third

other than send young men abroad

World War rhetoric, he maintains the Russians are as angry with Saddam as we are. "but they have a slightly different view of how you actually get him to comply".

When Robertson was in the Gulf in September, he stood in 44C heat on the Kuwait-Iraq border and pondered on Saddam's audacious arrival with 100,000 troops, seven years ago, into a peaceful neigh-bouring country. This man has now got a huge capability of chemical weapons, and uses them against his own people. What happens to them if we back off?

We want diplomacy to work. But if it doesn't, we're ready: the plans are there. The military option is a dangerous one. It will have risks. But you have to stand up to tyrants." As for the dissident voices from his own side, he says: "To the people who say don't do anything. I say they've got to answer the question, what happens if we do nothing?" We don't want to fight, but by jingo if we do ...

Why the government silence on the Salman Rushdie affair? + please, no parliamentary crèche + cellulite cream confessions

Rope in our feelings

IF PEOPLE who are opposed to the death penalty could have seen our house over the past two years and the pain and misery David Frost has caused, if they could understand the half of it, the tenth of it, they might change their minds about the death penalty."
When I heard the statement

by Robert Smith, father of the murdered Louise, read out on the radio, I thought he was right. We do feel differently. Even trying to imagine — which is nothing, not a tenth. not a millionth, of it - what his family has gone through and is going through makes it difficult for us to summon up . the moral energy to disagree, to point out the flaws in his argument, or really to want to. But he's right and we'd be wrong. Not wrong to feel as we do, but to try to think and to legislate accordingly.

Revenge is an important part of punishment, that I don't deny. And why should we blame any victim of crime, by a civilised society but they

for desperately wanting retribution?

I am no Christian, with a Christian's duty to turn the other cheek, to forgive rather than to punish; and I don't mestion - even though I know it must be checked - the instinct for vengefulness. I see, too, that any defence of

a confessed and convicted murderer, as an individual, stinks. He's taken a life: why should his be respected? Why should his be accorded more value than the one life he took? Yet it can't work like that: and we shouldn't demand that it does. However understandable, justified indeed, our stance might be, it doesn't mean that it should be en-

shrined in law. The punishment a society metes out to those who infringe its laws, even its most important ones, reflects that society. What's hard for us all is that we have the laws made

are now operating in a society which is ever less civil. How do we then reconcile our need to be civilised, and to act as if we are, with an increasingly violent society, and one which spits in the face of any attempts to civilise it?

The answer is that we aren't managing to do so very well. This doesn't make the attempt itself ignoble, though. But we can't give up. The value any society places on a human life does indeed show the extent to which it is civilised. We rightly condemn as barbaric those regimes that unflinchingly execute their citizens.

AND we should remember America in all this. Never mind Clinton's sexual record, what we should be talking about, much more, and with real outrage rather than manufactured piety, is the fact that when he was Governor of Arkansas, in order to ingratiate himself with the electorate and make of himself a President one day, he allowed an mentally retarded teenager to

take place. But, hey, it's only one person -- and just count

I don't want to sound selfcongratulatory, preening my-self for moral superiority. I really think that those of us of the Bien Pensant Tendency have to question ourself deep and honestly. Do we think Robert Smith might have a point? Are we backing the

wrong horse on this one? By acting compassionately towards the culprits rather than the victims of crime, are we compromising rather than proving our ethical selves? Would sentencing David Frost. Louise's murderer, deter others? And, if it would, we have to ask whether that price, that moral price - and it is a huge one - is worth paying?

Democratically speaking, a case could be made for the death penalty, simply because such alarmingly huge numbers of people seem to be in favour of it. But that's the crucial problem of democracy: the majority view isn't neces-

sarily the right one. Sorry to

say it, but it's true, and we all,

democrats every one, know it. But democracy has another task, to make sure the citizens

are done well by, to protect

their interests and to make a civilised society in which they can live and flourish. Whatever we might think is going on all around us, we still deserve a civilised society. That's what we've got to keep hold of, and that's why we cannot bring back the death

Unhappy anniversary

AND talking of death penalties and the civilised society, Saturday marks the ninth anniversary of the fatwa decreed by Iran on Salman Rushdie.

It is also more than nine months since the Labour Government - the good guys, remember? - was elected. What has it done to denounce the fatwa, to protect the rights of its citizen, Salmon Rushdie. and to right this awful, indefensible politically as much as morally - wrong? Nada.

We cannot have this. Tony Blair must do something. And a making-all-the-right-noises kind of Valentine message is not

This isn't personal: it's political. And it has got to be tackled appropriately - which is head on, not bowing to the wrong people now.

No, no to nannying MPs

NOW that quite a few of the recent intake of female MPs have either given birth or are pregnant, and several more are thought to be keeping back such announcements, word has it that a big move is about to be made to demand a creche in Parliament.

On no account should such a crèche be set up. l cannot say this forcibly enough.

We don't want every woman

MP to have her childcare problems cheaply and easily sorted or we will never have any considerations made for our difficulties, financial and

otherwise. I do not apologise for this piece of middle-class special pleading: if we ever want to see the light of tax relief on childcare then our MPs will have to go out and find expensive nannies on the open market like the rest of us.

Cream or gym. There's the rub

IT'S all very well a Which? report telling us cellulite creams are useless. We know they are: that's not why we buy them. I have a weakness for the expensive cosmetic counter (although the face rather than the thigh zone is more the focus of my wasted purchases; but it has never occurred to me to believe all the sales jargon and pseudo-medical guff. I

enjoy it, but I don't fall for it. I pay money because the actual payment gives me pleasure; the idiotic, almost illicit. expense is part of the whole deal. But with cellulite creams there is another lure. We all know what makes legs look better: exercise. But faced with that or spending money in the pretence that it will work. there's no contest. If it's a choice between an hour at the gym or a day's wages on a por of cream, the cream suddenly looks like a most attractive

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The Times continues its serialisation of the most searching journalistic investigation yet into the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. In the second extract from their new book Thomas Sancton and Scott MacLeod tell how Dodi planned to propose

Death of a

n the evening of August 22 Dodi pulled the Jonikal into the harbour at Monte Carlo. The couple went ashore and walked together to the boutique of the jeweller Alberto Repossi in the Hermitage hotel near the principali-ty's famous casino. They had previously been to the shop on August 5, looking at some rings, and took a catalogue away with them. Now they seemed to know exactly what they wanted.

Diana. Princess of Wales. had chosen an item from Repossi's new line of engagement rings called "Dis-Moi Oui!" (Tell Me Yes!) Cost: \$200,000. Customised for the Princess, it was a band of yellow and white

gold, with triangles of diamond clusters surrounding a stunemerald to show them other things," says M Repossi, "but they had decided on this ring." It was agreed that M Repossi himself would bring the ring to Paris on August 30.

Princess and Dodi believe that the main reason for their oneday stopover in Paris on Saturday, August 30. was to allow Dodi to pick up the Princess's engagement ring at Repossi's shop in the Place Vendôme. Since the couple had already enjoyed a three-day weekend in Paris the previous month, there would have been little point going back just to have dinner. The Princess was due in London by midday Sunday to see her children, who were coming down from a vacation with their father in Scotland, so the visit to Paris would have lasted less than 24 hours in any case. The fact is that Dodi's only fixed appointment in Paris that Saturday was his 6.30pm

meeting with Alberto Repossi. Not even Mohamed Al Fayed, who now has possession of the Tell Me Yes! ring. knows whether Dodi actually presented the Princess with it that day. Nor is there any evidence that the Princess and Dodi had become formally engaged. That they intended to marry now seems beyond question. But the Princess. friends believe, wanted to inform her children before making the news public. Possibly Sunday when she was to meet Wills and Harry in London. For his part, Dodí told the

people who were closest to him that he and the Princess had decided to get married. On Friday, August 29, Mohamed Al Fayed phoned the Jonikal and spoke to the Princess. They chatted about shopping. as she wanted to pick up some birthday presents for Harry, who was turning 13 on September 15. She didn't mention wedding bells at that time, but Dodi spoke to Mohamed later that day. "We have decided to get married, Moomoo," he said, using the affectionate nickname by which he always called his father. "I'm going to Paris and I am going to buy

'I had never seen

as happy as at the

moment they were

about to leave'

her the ring."Al Fayed was

pleased, but reacted cautious-

"Don't rush into anything. I

think this is too fast. Make up

your mind. Just be sure you

are doing the right thing." But Dodi had already begun map-

ping out his future with his

princess. He told his father

that he wanted to take the

Princess back to the Windsor

villa during their Paris stop-

over. "If I get married, do you

think you can give me the

house?" Dodi asked. Moha-

René Delorm and The Ritz's

On the morning of Satur-

day, August 30, Dodi and the

Princess sat on the top deck of

the Jonikal and admired the

sparkling waters of Sardinia's

René, who had been with the

couple on both trips, arrived

on deck at 9.30am with break-

fast: coffee, croissants and

iam, a basket of bananas.

apples, grapes, oranges and

kiwis. "It was a quiet morning. They were in a good mood," Rene recalls. "They never

president Frank Klein.

odi also spoke

about marriage to

two family em-

ployees: his butler

Coast. The butler

med replied: "No problem."

"Easy, easy," he told Dodi.

cruise. They were always laughing, holding hands."

stopped talking the whole

While the couple were lin-gering over their breakfast, Dodi's cellphone rang. It was Frank Klein in Antibes, returning Dodi's call from the previous night. Dodi had an urgent need to talk to Klein, who was also responsible for overseeing the Windsor villa that Mohamed Al Fayed had leased from the City of Paris since 1986. The elder Fayed had ordered the Duke and Duchess's effects cleared out and auctioned off in order to turn the property over to his family's personal use. Dodi had a plan for the mansion. "Frank," he said. "Where do

we stand on the Windsor villa?" Klein informed him that the Windsor artefacts had been removed as of the Dodi and the Princess end of July and were to go on auction Sotheby's in less

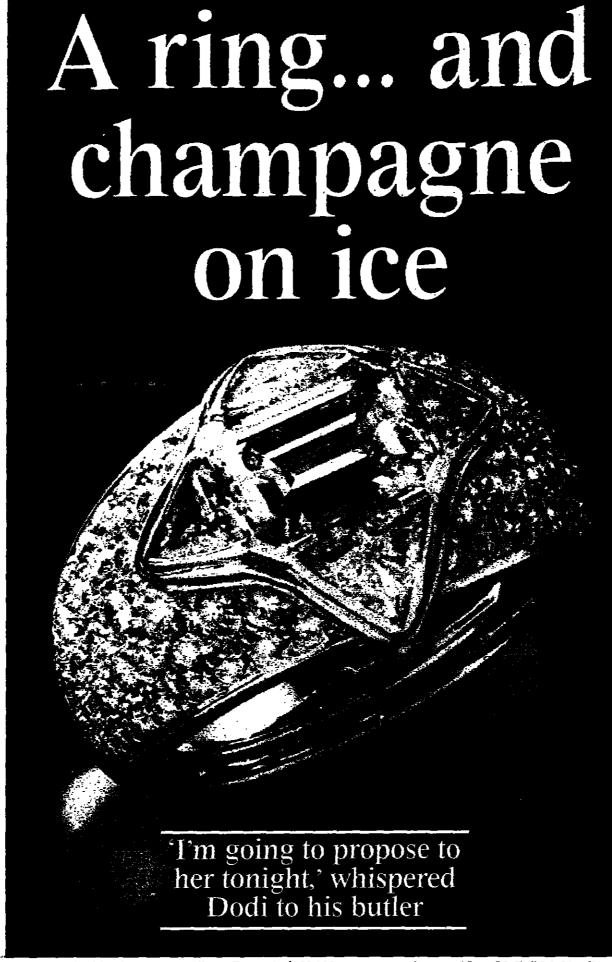
than two weeks. The house stood empty.
"Good," said Dodi. "I've spo-ken to my father My friend" - he

didn't want to mention the Princess's name for fear of electronic eavesdroppers -"doesn't want to stay in England." Klein quickly guessed whom he was talking about. Then Dodi broke some startling news: 'We want to move into the villa, Frank, because we are getting married in October or November."

"That's wonderful, Dodi," said Klein. "Really wonderful. I'll be in Paris on Monday and we'll talk about it."

Some time after their arrival in Paris, the Princess went to get her hair done in the salo: near the health soa at The Ritz. Dodi took this moment to run an important errand. He had appointment with M Repossi, who had brought the Tell Me Yes! ring up from Monte Carlo after resizing it and doing the other modifications that Dodi had requested

eight days earlier. A little before 6.30pm, Dodi sent his bodyguard Alexander "Kes" Wingfield and Claude Roulet, of the Ritz manage ment staff, on foot to Repossi's boutique. True to his security fetish, Dodi insisted on being driven to Repossi's in the Mercedes 600, though it was less than 100 yards from the entrance to The Ritz. Trevor



Customised for the Princess, Alberto Repossi's \$200,000 engagement ring came from his Tell Me Yes! line

Rees-Jones accompanied him and waited in the car while Dodi went inside.

Dodi took delivery of the Tell Me Yes! ring, but also examined another that had caught his fancy. He asked M Repossi if he could take both rings to see which one the Princess preferred. The jewels were handed over to M Roulet, with details about the price and payment left to be worked out later between the shop and the Ritz management.

The Princess had returned

from having her hair done when Dodi got back to the room. Shortly afterwards, M Roulet knocked on the door and delivered the rings to Dodi, who took them and disappeared into the next room of the suite. Dodi later returned the second ring to M Roulet. It was thus the Tell Me Yes! ring that Dodi had selected and probably intended to slip on the Princess's finger that night. The ring was later

found in his apartment in its

unopened box. It now lies in a

safe-deposit vault in a Swiss bank, along with love letters: from the Princess to Dodi.

At 8.45pm that evening Dodi called his maternal step-uncle. Hassaan Yasseen, who by coincidence was staying at The Ritz that weekend. Mr Yasseen, a Saudi businessman who once served as a press counsellor at the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Washington; and Dodi spoke for five minutes. "He called me and told me that he and the Princess were going to go to dinner,

and would I join them afterwards. And then we got to talking." It was then, Mr Yasseen says, that Dodi dropped the bombshell. "Isaid. The relationship seems to be getting more serious, and he said, Yes, it is. Then I asked him, 'Are you going to get married?' He said, 'Yes, we are going to get married.' Mr Yasseen was overjoyed. "I said, 'We are very happy for you. She is a nice girl. She has

tremendous character. I'm

glad that you have found love

between you." -- that kind of nice talk."

During that brief conversa-tion, Dodi did not elaborate on specific details, such as the ring, the formal announcement and the timing of the wedding. But he invited Mr Yasseen to join him and the Princess at the restaurant for coffee after their dinner. Mr Yasseen thought he would hear more about the engage-ment then. But near midnight, when Mr Yasseen went looking for them, a hotel concierge informed him that Dodi had phoned to ask if they could meet for breakfast the next morning instead. There is too much media," Dodi had told the concierge. Mr Yasseen never spoke to Dodi again.

ené Delorm had worked for Dodi for more than six years. During the Mediterranean cruises with the Princess. Dodi had said nothing to René about his intentions, but as the couple prepared to leave the Rue Arsène-Houssaye apartment for dinner, he told him he planned to propose to the Princess when they returned.

While the Princess was preparing herself in the living room, Dodi crept discreetly into the kitchen. "René," he told his butler, "make sure we have champagne on ice. A few moments later, he came back. "Rene, I'm going to propose to her tonight," he whispered, with a big smile

Dodi called his father at around midnight from The Ritz, Mohamed Al Fayed recounts, and told him that he and the Princess would soon leave for the apartment. Mr Al Fayed didn't like his plan.
"Don't go," he warned.
"There's a lot of press out there. Why don't you just stay in the hotel?

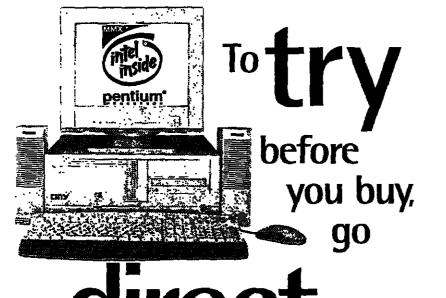
We can't, Moomoo," said Dodi. We have all our things back at the apartment, and we have to leave from there in the

"Just be careful," said his father. Don't step on it. There's no hurry. Wait until you see the atmosphere is perfect, get in your car and go away. Don't hide — it is unnecessary. You have security with you. If they want to shoot you, fine, then at least we know they shot you. But to go out the back, change the

But Dodi had already made up his mind. During these final moments, he seemed to get more and more excited worn out from the long and harrowing day, waited sively. The Ritz security video shows the couple standing in the rear hall just minutes before their departure. Dodi has his left arm draped protectively around the Princess. The chauffeur, Henri Paul, is facing them, talking anima-

tedly. As Kes Wingfield described the moment "[Dodi] was happy. So was the Princess. They joked and laughed. It might seem ironic but I had never seen Dodi and the Princess as happy as at the moment they were about to leave calmly from the rear of the hotel."

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Born to please

DODI was extravagant to a fault. His propensity to lavish gifts on everyone around — from sides of smoked salmon to a weekend in the Seychelles seemed to spring from an impulse to please more than to impress. (The Princess had the same quality.)

One night at Tramp, Dodi learnt that it was the birthday of the wife of the owner, Johnny Gold. He simply took off the Cartier gold chain he was wearing beneath his Versace shirt and draped it around her neck. "Dodi was more generous than anybody I have ever met," says his former wife Suzanne Gregard. "And it was always with no strings attached. He never expected anything in return."

When they were apart, he had a habit of phoning Diana and telling her about things he had just purchased for her. According to her friend Rosa Monckton, this made Diana angry. "I don't want to be bought, Rosa," she would say.

But on their last cruise of the summer, Dodi was ready to open his heart as well as his wallet. He presented her with something very special: a silver plaque from a London jeweller (£812) inscribed with a poem he had written for her.

During their time together Diana gave Dodi a silver cigar clipper, inscribed "From Diana with love", and a pair of gold cufflinks with the family crest, which were the last gift she had received from her late father. "It would give my father great joy," she said, "to know that they were in safe and special hands."



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'Tell my sister Sarah to look after the children'

Death of a PRINCESS

Mohamed Al Fayed is told of the Princess's dying wish, while Prince Charles and Diana's sisters prepare for her return home

Sunday, August 31, Mohamed Al Fayed's Sikorsky SK-76 helicopter landed at Le Bourget airport, ten miles north of Paris, after an 80-minute flight from Oxted. His chauffeur, Philippe Dourneau, and Dodi's bodyguard, Kes Wingfield, picked him up. Wingfield confirmed Dodi's death, but said that Diana, Princess of Wales, was still

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Instead of proceeding directly to the morgue to view Dodi's body. Al Fayed decided to go first to the hospital to see the Princess. Upon arriving at Pitié-Salpétrière he was met by Sir Michael Jay, the British Ambassador, Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the French Interior Minister, and Philippe Masso-ni, the police chief, who told him that she had just died. Al Fayed was taken to see the body. "I was in shock," he later told associates. "I saw her and I prayed. She looked beautiful.

peaceful and serene." The white sheet pulled up to . her most grievous wounds and the blood had been wiped from her face. But what was not apparent to Al Fayed had been chronicled shortly before by the Paris medical official who performed an external examination on the body. The report showed a 3cm wound on the forehead, a cut over the lip, crushed ribs, a fractured right arm, an 8cm cut on the right thigh, bruises on both hands and feet, and a cut on the right buttock. The body chart did not give details of the internal injuries, however, since the Princess's chest had already been sewn up.

Before leaving the hospital, Al Fayed was approached by a French official he knew. "There is someone who must speak with you," said this official. He introduced Al Fayed to a medical worker who had treated Diana in the timnel. As Al Fayed recalls the story, this person told him that the Princess had drifted in and out of consciousness and that at one point she had spoken. What she had reportedly said,

t about 3.30am on Al Fayed was told, was: Tell my sister Sarah to look after my children." Al Fayed received Lady Sarah McCorquodale in his London office the following Thursday and re-peated to her the Princess's alleged last words, although a spokesman for the hospital later described the story of the Princess's last words as "completely false" and "an invention". Al Fayed also gave Lady Sarah a silver plaque, which Dodi had had inscribed with a love poem, and which a maid had found under the Princess's pillow at Dodi's Paris apartment. Al Fayed requested that it be placed in

hospital immediately to pay

would be at the hospital to greet the Prince of Princess's Toyo sis

brought up from the operating room where she

face that had turned ashen. Plainclothes policemen mounted a permanent guard

bedside. The priest later ceded his place to the Rev Martin

Diana's coffin. By 7.30, the French President had decided to send his wife, Bernadette Chirac, to the

respects on his be-

Chirac arrived at the hospital at 8.45 followed by Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister. By then the Princess had been

died to a room on the first-floor intensive care corridor where French and British officials had set up a crisis centre. Nurses had cleaned the body and covered her with a sheet up to the shoulders. The Princess's personal valet, Paul Burrell, 39, whom she always called "my rock", arrived at about 1pm to help to prepare her for her final voyage. He brought a suitcase containing make-up and a long black dress. Working with hospital staff and French undertakers, he dressed her, arranged her hair and applied colour to a

outside the door. Inside, the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain, Father Yves Clochard-Bossuet, sat by the Princess's bed and quietly prayed for her soul. Wakened in his hospital apartment at 3am, the priest had been ushered into the dead Princess's room shortly after the body had been brought upstairs. When Madame Chirac arrived at the hospital, she joined him in prayer at the

Draper of St George's Anglican Church in Paris. With Prince Charles and the Princess's two sisters expected in the afternoon, French and British officials held a 2pm planning session in their crisis centre, 15 vards away from

where the Princess lay. The meeting included the French Govchief, Bernard Grasset; a British protocol officer; the British Embassy press atta-Livesey, the Ely-see deputy spokesman, Jespokesman, rôme Peyrat; the

Elysée press colyne Richard; Police Chief Masso-Dr Riou, Professor Alain Pavie and four

employees of the Paris undertakers that had provided the casket and hearse, their suitcases containing the make-up and other accessories used to prepare the body. The discussion centred on

Sister Sarah

protocol. Who would stand next to whom? Where would Chirac greet Prince Charles? How would the cortège leave the hospital? But the conversation was quickly diverted to such questions as "What state is the Princess in? How is she dressed? Is her face damaged? Does Prince Charles want to see the coffin open or closed?" In fact, the Princess was not

yet in the coffin. She had been made up, coiffed and dressed, and lay on a hospital bed. The windows had been shuttered and the curtains drawn to block the prying cameras of journalists, some of whom had rented balcony space across the street from the hospital. The room was lit by a small wall lamp. "Her face was not at all damaged, she looked impeccable," says an official who saw the Princess at about 3pm. "It was a bizarre moment. I was filled with an infinite sadness before this beautiful woman, adulated around the world, who lay dead in this humble hospital

room." Before the royal party

arrived, the undertakers lifted the Princess into her coffin. According to Prince Charles's wishes, the lid was left open.

حكذا من الاجل

There had been much debate about whether the hearse should leave from the main entrance, where a huge crowd now stood vigil behind police barricades, or from a rear exit. Prince Charles's instructions were unambiguous: "Don't hide the departure of the coffin. Let it be filmed inside and outside the hospital. Let it be seen by the people."

At Spm, a BAe 146 of the Royal Flight touched down at the Villacoublay military airfield, about 20 miles southwest of Paris, where it was met by Sir Michael Jay. When the royal party arrived at the hospital with a French police motorcycle escort at 5.40pm, President and Madame Chirac were waiting at the entrance with a guard of honour of France's ceremonial Gardes Républicaines, resplendent in their dark blue uniforms with red and gold

from the Ambassador's silver grey Jaguar with a rather daffy smile frozen on his face. He greeted the Chiracs in his flawless, but heavily accented, French: Monsieur le Président, Madame Chirac, merci d'être là." The presidential couple then accompanied him and the Princess's two sisters, Lady Jane Fellowes and Lady Sarah, to the intensive care unit. While the Chiracs waited in the corridor, the Prince and his former sisters-in-law entered the room.

he Princess was in the coffin with her hands folded over her black evening dress. Mr Draper said prayers with them, then left the room. Prince Charles and the sisters remained several minutes. Though it had not been planned by the protocol chiefs, Prince Charles asked to remain alone with the body for a

When the Prince came out he had obviously been crying. He quickly recovered his aplomb and stepped towards Professor Riou and Professor Pavie to thank them for their efforts. His first words were "Mes félicitations! (Congramlations!)" A rather incongruous remark in the circumstances but an understandable lapse for a man in shock. Chirac, who had viewed the body with his wife shortly before the Prince of Wales's arrival, was no less moved. "The President looked devastated," says an Elysée aide. Following the script worked

out by the two protocol offici-

als, Mr Draper led the way

followed by the casket, draped under the purple, red and gold Royal Standard, borne by four black-uniformed pallbearers from the French undertaking firm. Then came Prince Charles, followed by the two sisters, President and Ma-

dame Chirac, the Jays, protocol officials, police officers and a pack of pool journalists. The dignity of the moment was slightly marred by the state of the corridors and stairway, which were littered with cigarette butts, coffee cups and fast-food wrapping. An Elysee staffer had grabbed a broom and swept the entrance hall just before the Prince's arrival, but had not

had time to tidy up the stairs and hallway. When the cortege reached the ground floor, the silence was shattered by a high-pitched voice: "You bitch! You're not ashamed to come here?" An elderly woman visiting the hospital had mistaken Lady Sarah for Prince Charles's mistress, Camilla Parker Bowles. When an Elysee aide explained that it was the Princess's sister, the woman burst into tears over was going home.

her faux pas. The Prince may not have noticed. By that time he seemed totally detached from reality. His face was expressionless, his movements mechanical. After the coffin was

placed into the hearse, the

Prince took his leave of the Chiracs. Then he got into the Jaguar and waited. Chirac and his wife stood near by. The 13 Gardes Républicaines stood at attention. For more than a minute nothing happened - neither the French nor the British side knew who would give the order to depart.

During this awkward pause, a British Embassy employee ran to the car bearing Lady Jane and Lady Sarah. With tears streaming down his cheeks, he placed a plastic bag in the boot. It contained the clothes the Princess had been wearing on her last

At 6.15pm the vehicles finally started to move. Chirac, his eyes brimming, saluted the departing cortege. When the hearse reached the hospital Boulevard de l'Hôpital, applause suddenly swelled up from the crowd, punctuated by cries of "Diana, we love you!" The cortege continued at a stately pace through the streets of Paris, then picked up speed on the highway en route to Villacoublay, where the coffin was placed aboard the BAe 146 by a Royal Air Force guard of honour. At last, she

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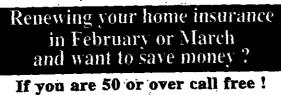
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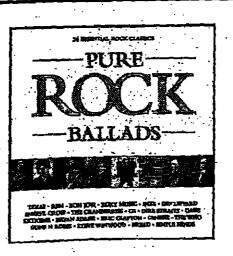
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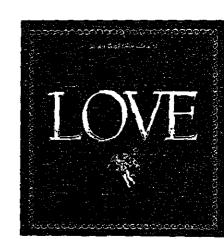
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مكذا من الاصل

Robert Skidelsky on how TV drama whitewashes

a would-be dictator into a gentle repentant sinner

swald Mosley, the subject of the four-part Channel 4 drama starting tomorrow, was for a few years the wonder boy of British politics. He was elected to Parliament in 1918 at the age of 22 - the "baby" of the House, but already a war veteran. He started as a Conservative, was briefly an Independent, and in 1920 won Smethwick for Labour.

In 1929 he was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in Ramsay MacDonald's second Labour Government, with special responsibility for unemployment. Less than a year later, he resigned after the Government turned down his British "New Deal". His resignation speech in May 1930 was one of the finest parliamentary performances of this century. Then he snapped. He formed the New

Party in 1931 and the British Union of Fascists a year later. After that it was downhill all the way - violence. attacking the Jews. internment in 1940.

Or was it? Failure can be the stuff of legend. Mosley lived until 1980. When I got to know him late in life, he still had the aura of a major political personality. At his elegant house in Paris. he was hard at work rcordering systems of government and economics, the affairs of countries, even continents. I realised then that he was one of the last of the rationalists, in the sense that he really believed the world's problems would yield to rational analysis and treatment. I began to understand the source of the totalitarian temp-

ration. If the answers are known, or knowable, political freedom can come to be seen as an obstacle to progress. The task of the political leader is to create space for the expert. If a few recalcitrant heads have to be broken on the way, that is a cheap entrance ticket to a new civilisation of peace and plenty. I wrote my biography of Oswald Mosley partly to under-

stand how an English aristocrat, born near the turn of the century, could have acquired this set of convictions, and acted recklessly on them. I traced them to the First World War. I saw Mosley as an extreme example of a generational reaction to that conflict. All his subsequent public actions had reference to it. It provided him with his imagery. his motives, his causes, his

Nearly ten years after my biography was published, in 1975, Nicholas Mosley produced a two-volume life of his father. This, too, was an attempt to understand Oswald Mosley, in particular to find a way of talking about him which reconciled filial love with a profound distaste for his politics. His solution was to portray his father as a hedonist, for whom politics was a series of dramatic gestures - an interpretation first suggest-ed by the historian A.J.P. Taylor. The point of this interpretation was to suggest that Oswald Mosley was not ultimately a serious revolutionary. The cru-cial piece of evidence for Nicholas Mosley was that in 1936 his father called off a march in East London (the "battle of Cable Street) so he could keep his appointment to get married to Diana Mitford in Berlin. This seemed to his son to be getting priorities right. Even the choice of venue had a certain insouci-

ance about it. The Channel 4 series is based on Nicholas Mosley's book. Scripted by Gran and Marks, it makes a riveting and intelligent TV drama — the most intelligent treatment of a political and personal life that we are likely to get on television. But at the same time we feel (or I feel) that we are

Oswald Mosley: totalitarian temptation

being manipulated into a view of

things which owes more to

Nicholas Mosley's psychology and the demands of television

drama than to an understanding

of history. If Nicholas Mosley

felt the need to turn his father

into someone he could go on

loving. Gran and Marks have

used fiction to make Oswald

Mosley "human" in terms which

might be understood by a con-

The trick is accomplished by

setting up Mosley as a first-class

shit, though a clever and inter-

esting one, in the first three

episodes - before we even get to

fascism. He is offensive, arro-

fictional, in sight (there is plenty

of panting and grunting) but

lacerates her verbally in private

and public. In a way which

temporary audience.

arrest in 1940. The film, however. suggests his increasing moral discomfort with what he was doing, the growth of self-

would perhaps be recognised by Bill Clinton, Mosley remained

faithful to Cimmie, but not even Jonathan Cake's soulful eyes can

make his efforts at contrition

convincing. "So", as he curiously intones throughout the film, Mosley is set up for a fall as

career and marriage disintegrate

happen. Instead we are led into the last act of a morality play, in

which the main themes are

remorse and redemption. Under

the hammer blows which Os-

wald Mosley suffers, there is a

slow rebirth of decency. This

aspect of the story seems to me to

owe more to Gran and Marks

than to Nicholas Mosley. The latter has his father balancing on

a tightrope, trying to have his Fascist cake and eat it. till his

But the fall does not really

knowledge.
The guilt starts with the death of Cimmie in 1933 from peritonitis. but also, it is strongly hinted, of a broken heart. Mosley has nightmares in which calls out "Cim, Cim". There is a struggle of conscience over the shift to anti-Semitism — the first sign of conscience in the film. The most powerful image of all is his tormented look when he sees the blood-spilt evidence of Nazi Jewbaiting on a Berlin pavement. This is the film's defining mo-Mosley's realisation that words have consequences. We are prepared for the gentler Mosley of the final arrest, is friendly and consider-

ate to his black cellmate. Gran and Marks have added another myth to the Mosley legend: that of the repentant sinner. But continue to what would have been episode 5, and you have Mosley in Notting Hill Gate after the war, stirring it up, this time against blacks. He may have been a better man after 1945, but he was not a better politician. The political cannot be reduced to the personal: it apes the personal as well. The real holocaust for Oswald Mosley, as for many of his genera-tion, was that of the First World War. He had no imaginative contact with any other. He hated

gant, and overbearing in his political relations, as well as the people who produced it, and being a shameless manipulator their successors. In his last of words and crowds. His counmonths he was still churning out terbalancing idealism and intelhis regular Broadsheets, some lectual energy — he was the first Keynesian in British politics wise, some foolish, all harking back to the Vision Splendid with which his career had started. He while not ignored, are given little dramatic weight. He also treats was not asking for forgiveness. If he sought redemption, it was his wife Cynthia Curzon ("Cimmie"), Nicholas Mosley's through striving. Is this somemother and the heroine of this thing which can now be film. abominably. "Tom" Mosley not only seduces every pretty woman, old and young, real and Lord Skidelsky is Professor of

Political Economy at Warwick University. The third edition of his Oswald Mosley was published as a Papermac in 1991.



MORE TARGETS FOR A BUCKET OF COLD WATER ...

Peers, press and humbug

n May last year, to be a Labour MP was very Heaven. Now comes the prick of conscience. The House of Lords has thrown down a direct challenge to the Government and the Government requires that its MPs in the Commons resist it. The peers are unhappy about the ban on beef-on-the-bone; instead, they want a ban on preda-

tory pricing by newspapers.
The Lords does not have the power to overrule government. All the peers can do is ask the House of Commons to reconsider a law and do the overruling itself. In this case, most Labour MPs must privately be inclined to join the peers in a double stance worthy of Hogarth or Cobbett. The peers are defending the right to the roast beef of Olde Englande, and seeking protection for the radical press. Neither proposal is inherently

In the case of beef-on-the-bone, the Government has lost the argument in the past three months. Its own inspectors have declared the beef ban unenforceable. The public has been enraged. The beef industry has been kicked in the ribs when already down. And the point of the ban, to win diplomatic Brownie points in Brussels, has been shown up for a sham. There is no appreciable risk in eating beef-on-the-bone. The ban should end and MPs should do the

The predatory pricing amendment to the Government's Competition Bill is more arcane, but also has radical credentials. Monday's debate may have been crude logrolling for the Mirror Group (owner of The Independent), and against News International (owner of The Times), but the Bill itself (unlike the Lords' amendment) raises questions of principle for all businesses with which I have some sympathy. Rules against predatory pricing belong to any competi-tion policy. It is strictly controlled in America. It would be prima facie evidence of monopolistic or unfair trading even under Britain's more lax Competition regime.

Government rebels in the Lords argue that there is something peculiarly fragile in a newspaper market. which demands more attention than it is getting in the Cabinet's new competition Bill. Only paranoid politicians hold that newspaper proprietors deliver votes at elections. But the press is influential in most areas of public life. Newspapers take the agenda of politics and tear it apart. They determine the art of the pos-

'The Independent' has hijacked the House of Lords for a commercial ploy

sible. They offer outlets for unconventional views and, at their best, test conventional ones to destruction. They make and break reputations.

Press diversity is thus as vital to the democratic process as party diversity. American politics is debilitated by the paucity of competition between serious newspapers. Britain may traditionally have "the worst and the best" newspapers in the world, but above all it has many. Debate is more varied in consequence. This is due in part to the background presence, at moments of crisis, of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, and in part to the bizarre workings of the British newspaper market.

When I was

member of the commission's newspaper panel in the 1980s, a 30 per cent considered the limit of unregulated market activity. Above that point, government regulation

"kicked in" to pro-tect diversity. Only if a newspaper seemed at risk of imminent closure would a purchase be allowed that gave another newspaper a dominant market position. The trouble was that imminent closure rarely threatened. The industry was awash with crosssubsidy. Every group sheltered a loss-maker or two.

Subsidies tumbled into Fleet Street from home and abroad. Queues of purchasers would form outside any paper in trouble: The Times, The Observer, the Daily Mirror, the Daily Express, the Evening Stan-dard. Men who had spent lifetimes making fortunes elsewhere seemed content to lose them on newspapers, especially since they came with nobility attached. "We have no party, creed or bias," sang the staff on Julius Elias's loss-making Daily Herald, "we want a peerage for Elias." All glamorous products enjoy crosssubsidies: films, opera houses, art galleries, racehorses, mistresses. Some cross-subsidies are public, some private. All must by definition hurt rivals. All are predatory.

The press subsidies could be staggering. Lord Thomson poured what he promised would be "unlimited"

money into The Times after 1966. He spent £70 million of his personal fortune on the paper, which went on "predatory" price cuts and advertis-ing discounts. The articles of association of the Scott Trust specifically laid down that the Manchester Evening News subsidise The Times's chief rival, The Guardian. The Daily Telegraph subsidised The Sunday Telegraph. When its rival, The Observer, was acquired and subsidised by the Atlantic Richfield Oil Company, that company's boss, Ro-bert Anderson, was feted at Downing Street. Rupert Murdoch was only allowed to acquire The Sunday Times in 1981 on condition that it crosssubsidise The Times Subsidy in

those days was seen as benign, indeed philanthropic, not These antics were all conspiracies in restraint of trade. Many were certain-

"bought peer-

ages". Unions

demanded huge payments that kept costs high and competition at bay. Newspaper collusion on cover prices would have been illegal in America. The present price war is a direct result of News International's move to Wapping in 1986 (invited by the Labour Tower Hamlets council). Costs plummeted as one newspaper after another left Fleet Street and renegotiated their union agreements. New newspapers leapt into life. High cover prices ensured that the industry enjoyed a period of high profits. They could not last. The market was too competitive. Price-cutting first began in advertising rates, then in distribution discounts, then in special offers. In 1993 the cover-price dam burst. Readers at last received their dividend on the newspaper revolution. Investment flowed into lower prices.

Economic theory holds that predatory pricing makes sense to a company only in one of two circumstances: if lower prices so stimulate demand that extra eventual revenue more than makes up for the loss, or if one player goes to the wall and the survivors take his share. The former does not merit outside regulation. The latter would do so, certainly in

the context of national newspapers Yet The Independent is not going to the wall. It is merely doing what most quality papers have done for half a century, which is lose money for its owners. Even if *The Independent* did close, it is unlikely that *The Times* would rise above the critical 30 per cent. The only paper that already has more than a third of this market is the Doily Talegaranh, with 38 per The Daily Telegraph, with 38 per cent. Labour peers do not worry about the Telegraph.

Having been at the sharp end of The Independent's commercial practices in the early 1990s, I take its whingeing with a pinch of salt. The Times fought on quality alone, sow-ing the seeds for The Independent's present plight. (The then Editor, Andreas Whittam Smith, accused us of predatory recruitment.) Now war is joined on price as well. The outcome has been an expansion in the overall market of 14 per cent. Just as The Times of old carried its losses cheerfully into the arms of the Astors, the Thomsons and now Mr Murdoch, so The Independent takes them The Mirror, Beggars canno always be choosers.

one of this argues against tough competition rules. The Lords claims that There is a loophole in the new Bill, allowing excessive scope for big companies to cross-subsidise price cuts in particular markets. There may be a case for closing that loophole. The danger for serious newspapers is that cross-subsidy remains their biggest lifeline to security. Besides, unfair trading practices that reduce freedom of choice are the job of the Office of Fair Trading. Its boss, John Bridgeman, is free to intervene. He sits waiting. He has investigated The Times twice, in 1993 and 1994, and found no fault. Let him come again.

I would hate to see The Independent or any other good newspaper close. If The Times was once intolerably stuffy. The Independent is intolerably smug. But every journal pays its tribute to the shrine of democracy. I rather suspect The Independent has hijacked the House of Lords for another of its commercial ploys. As it loses in the field of battle, it retreats to the thickets of the hereditary chamber. That is surely beneath its dignity. The Independent has already pulled off the oldest Fleet Street trick. It has made itself a smart thing to own. It should find another sugar daddy, lie back and enjoy it.

Raj return

THE last vestiges of imperialism have been shooed from India's troubled shores: the House of Lords jaunt to India for descendants of the British viceroys has returned home. The group included the splendid Countess Mountbatten and her husband, Lord Brabourne, the Earl and Countess of Elgin, the Earl and Countess of Lytton and Lady Darcy de Knayth, descendant of the swashbuckling colonialist, Lord Clive. Highlight of the trip? An impromptu meeting with Jacques Chirac, President of France. Tifty years of independance have

done little to impair standards. "The Indians were very benign and kind — we were wonderfully looked after," says the group leader. Baroness Flather, who grew up in Lahore. "They attached an extracarriage to one train to help us move around. It was very comfortable, they served hot drinks." First stop, Jaipur, where the

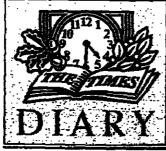
holidaymakers were guests of the Trident Hotel. "It was lovely," says the baroness. "We met the Maharajah. Bhawani Singh, and he insisted that we all have drinks in his palace. We rode on elephants — Countess Mountbat-ten was terribly good at it."

On to Agra, and some serious shopping. "We didn't have time for much sightseeing." she says. because everyone wanted to buy lots of marble objects to take home." Their pockets full, the group returned to Delhi for the Republic Day celebrations. "We were invited for drinks in the President's Palace and we met Chirac." she says. "He hung on to my hand for ages - he just didn't seem to want to let go. He couldn't believe I was a member of the



Lords. There was a dinner afterwards but we weren't invited to stay for that." Happily, BA was more accommodating and gave the party complimentary club class flights back home.

 PRINCE ANDREW has chosen to celebrate his 38th hirthday next week with the Duchess of York. He is to fly to Verbier for a few days to join Surah and the Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie who will be spending half-term skiing. The party will once again be staying in the chalet owned by Sarah's friend Paddy McNally, the motor racing tycoon. Some courtiers back home. who have been trying to distance the Duke from the Duchess, take



note: the couple are close, so why not let them be together?

Home defeat

AFTER seeing off various turban types in heroic fashion, Lawrence of Arabia has been defeated by suburbia. A pine summerhouse containing a fitness centre has been plonked in front of a cottage built for the writer when he was an undergraduate in the grounds of the family's Oxford home.

The clan moved into Polstead Road in 1896. By 1908, the young Lawrence needed peace to study for his history degree at Jesus College so the tiny dwelling, containing a bedroom and study, was erected in the garden. The site has since become a shrine for Lawrence buffs. Then, just before Christmas, the owner put up the summerhouse without planning permission only a couple of feet from the cottage. outraging neighbours. Now Oxford City Council, wisely, has asked the offending householder to apply retrospectively for permission before it decides whether to back Lawrence in his final battle.

● AS LABOUR investigates how John Prescott could have been so embarrassed at the Brits, it should consider why it allowed the Deputy PM to attend. In a recent entry, the Diary pointed out that Chumbawamba, the rock ensemble, was planning just such an ambush. At least Nigel Evans, MP, discovered the joys of opposition. When protesters who jumped on Cherie Blair saw Evans, the shaven-headed ringleader shouted: "Leave him alone, he's a Tory."

Long shot FREDERICK FORSYTH, author of The Day of the Jackal, has been



"Calm down mother, I said

musing about the chances of an as-sassin taking out President Sad-dam Hussein. "It would be a good thing but there is no chance," he told me at the Foyles literary luncheon. Even if it were politically acceptable to send in an SAS hitman, he said, the job was "damned near-ly impossible". "Saddam doesn't appear in public. He lives in bunkers 200ft underground and won't even see his sons without them being strip-searched first."

● BOOBY prize at the Conservative winter ball: a weekend with Lady Olga Maitland. Number of takers? None.

Plinth politics

OSCAR WILDE would have found the tale rather droll. A plan by a group of theatrical worthies, headed by Sir Jeremy Isaacs, to erect a monument to the playwright in theatreland has stalled because of financial difficulties - and artistic sniping. The statue should have been in place by now but no date has been set as to when it might grace WC2. Derek Jarman, the late film director, raised the project in 1994. But it was not until early last year that the Isaacs committee, which includes Dames Judi Dench and Maggie Smith, Sir Ian Mc-Kellen and the Earl of Gowrie, was established. A target of £175,000 was set and the unveiling was arranged for last autumn. Maggi Hambling, the sculptor, was cho-

sen after submitting a design of

Wilde emerging from a block of





Wilde still life: Oscar, Dames Maggie Smith, top. and Judi Dench

Brazilian granite, smoking. The design was attacked by critics for its failure to reflect the playwright's. character and its lack of grandeur. Last autumn's deadline passed without the statue appearing, and so far only £110,000 has been. raised. Some have suggested that Isaacs's unpopularity in the arts world stymied the fundraising. But Merlin Holland, Wilde's grandson. is happy. "Oscar would have hated something on a plinth looking down on Londoners. People have got their knives out which my

The second secon

grandfather would have loved." Hambling says: "We are on the way to raising enough funds and I will soon finish the statue. To paraphrase Wilde, when the critics disagree, the artist is one with him-self." Writing in 1882, Wilde wrote: in looking around at the figures which adorn our parks, one could almost wish that we had killed the noble art completely: to see the stat-ues of our departed ... adds a new horror to death."

JASPER GERARD

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THE TIMES

INNOCENTS ABROAD

Blair is not an American poodle nor the EU's lapdog

There is some, possibly unanticipated, intervention. This has already been apparcomfort for the Government as it confronts a Gulf crisis that seems destined for armed conflict sooner rather than later. An ICM opinion poll, published yesterday, indicates that the public supports present policy by a clear margin. A stand that is right does not require popular sanction but popularity is always welcome. The same survey shows strong approval for the sentiment that "Britain has more in common with America than it does with the rest of Europe" and an even sharper rejection of the claim that "Britain always does what the US Government tells us to do". The Government here will be grateful for that commendation in the difficult days ahead.

Few in the European Union would agree. Tony Blair's performance in Washington was not received well in Brussels. The concerns of that camp were outlined - with commendable candour - in the pages of the International Herald Tribune by Sir Roy Denman, the former head of the then European Community's delegation to Washington. Sir Roy charitably acknowledged that "there may be a case for armed action against Saddam Hussein", but he asked how Mr Blair's position would be viewed from continental Europe. Britain would be incapable of proper participation in the emerging EU common foreign policy if it appeared as a "poodle" intent on a "clientstate relationship with America".

This represents an extraordinary sense of priority and proportion. A response to Irac's biological and chemical weapons capability should apparently be subject to the quest for consensus within the European Union. It is all too clear what the character of an EU common foreign and security policy would constitute. Principle would hardly be at a premium. In its place there would be an insular approach and isolationist instinct that invariably preferred appeasement to ent from Baghdad to Bosnia to Burundi. We have seen the future and it shirks.

The Prime Minister's solidarity against Saddam Hussein was appreciated in the United States but with a reservation. Numerous commentators there agreed that Mr Blair's determination to act against Iraq was admirable. They lamented the fact that Britain's influence over its neighbours — and utility to the United States — was reduced by its reluctance to enter European monetary union from the outset or embrace European integration wholeheartedly. If it did, it was asserted, this country could act as an interlocutor between the EU and US. This view has been very widely expressed, even by Raymond Seitz, the respected recent American Ambassador to Britain.

This aspiration reflects a misunderstanding of the European project. Americans often seem to see EMU as merely a change of banknotes and political union as simply closer co-operation. The reality is that wholehearted integration would require a dramatic cultural transformation for this country. Our attitudes and institutions would need to shift towards the continental model. On that, Sir Roy Denman is completely correct. A Britain entrenched within the EU could not be an interlocutor for the United States. Current Anglo-American co-ordination on military and

intelligence matters would be impossible. Mr Blair should realise that he cannot be the toast of both Bill Clinton and Jacques Santer. The President should note that the special relationship cannot be reconciled with the creation of a European state that includes this country. The impasse in Iraq should have impressed the continued importance of transatiantic collaboration on each leader. The failures of EU foreign policy are plain. That lesson must be remembered after this conflict is resolved.

BEWARE THE BROTHERS

Easy union recognition could bring back the bad old days

The 22 most carefully drafted words in Labour's general election manifesto are today being fought over with all the passion that the Early Fathers roused when they debated the status of the Holy Ghost. These days, however, the antagonists in the argument are brothers, not fathers. And their semantic dispute centres on what Tony Blair really meant when he promised a law governing union recognition.

The manifesto pledge ran like this: "Where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballot for the union to represent them, the union should be recognised." To the CBI, this is perfectly clear: a majority of the relevant workforce must be secured, not merely a majority of those voting. The TUC, however wants a simple majority in the ballot. In other words, if 12 out of a 100strong workforce vote "yes" and 11 vote "no", then the whole hundred will find that they are in a collective bargaining unit represented by a trade union.

Through such seeds can militant trade unionism spread. All it might take in an otherwise benign working environment would be a highly motivated militant group taking advantage of lethargic colleagues to force collective bargaining both on their management and other employees. Once the union were recognised, the impact on investor confidence would be immediate. Although the result could be stable industrial relations, many employers understandably fear the opposite.

Companies that derecognised trade unions in the 1980s did so because they had been so badly damaged in the past. Certain industries saw intimidation, cheating and restrictive practices on a scale that is almost impossible to believe in the peaceful climate of the 1990s. Demarcation was so severe that no one in a collar and tie could change a light bulb or collect an envelope without

precipitating industrial action. Newspaper production was sabotaged, and The Times, among other papers, was forced off the streets for long periods. When the stranglehold over the industry was finally broken, unions resorted to physical violence to try to protect their unearned privileges.

So it is not surprising that some employers are wary of allowing unions to re-enter their plants. They do not dispute the right of individuals to join unions and to seek advice from them. But what they do not want is to be caught again in a web of restrictive practices and industrial action that prevents them from managing their businesses. Nor do most of their employees want to be bound by agreements made in their name for which they have not voted.

Labour has made its pledge, and many employers will have to accept that some form of union recognition might come. But ministers should not delude themselves that this is anything other than a big step, however it is designed. Conversely, the unions should be grateful that, along with the minimum wage and the social chapter, Tony Blair has acceded to their demands on recognition. Trying to push him further to make the terms even more favourable to the unions would be damaging to British business and to the prosperity on which their members' jobs depend.

If Mr Blair opts for the CBI position, the TUC will try to present it as backsliding. It is no such thing. The Prime Minister has never promised anything stronger and nor did the manifesto. MPs, meanwhile, would be wise to resist the intense TUC lobbying barrage to which they are currently being subjected and to lift their eyes to the broader picture. Many of them owe their position to voters' perception that Labour would not damage business. A return to "old" Labour instincts now could cost them dearly later.

I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CHELSEA

Turn left at Abbey Road for the Waterloo Sunset

The long and winding road now leads to a garage door with a blue plaque on it. The built heritage which attracted the cultural tourist was, not so long ago. Blenheim and Polesden Lacey but now it is the petrol station in Romford where the Rolling Stones once found, after a painful journey, a particular form of satisfaction. The British Tourist Authority has, in the spirit of Cool Britannia, produced a vade-mecum to the nation's sites of pop pilgrimage which helps visitors to get back to where their rock heroes once belonged.

It is a moot point whether the visitors drawn to the courts in Cambridge where Isaac Newton first took his stumbling steps towards thermodynamics will now be outnumbered by those drawn to the garden where Olivia Newton-John first took her stumbling steps. But a nation which can impress the world with its ability to accumulate platinum discs as well as Nobel Prizes for Physics should be nothing if not vigorous in inviting tourists to visit more than just very big houses in the country.

The compilers of the rock map and its accompanying gazetteer of glam have not been fazing on their Sunday afternoons: few corners of the country and few recesses of the jukebox have been neglected in a compilation which ranges from Mott the Hoople to the Ferry cross the Mersey. Some of the sites

will attract more interest than others. The garage wall where the Stones relieved themselves is unlikely to feature on many tourist camcorders but the Chelsea chemist whose early closing inspired Mick Jagger to write You Can't Always Get What You Want may find that some of the visiting fans have unusual pharmacological requirements.

For sociologists of rock perhaps the most significant trend on the map is the emergence of fashion leaders from the less fashionable areas: pop is, emphatically, the sound of the suburbs. Metroland is as much the home of Bowie as Betjeman. Those who affect to be working-class heroes are often the children of the petty-bourgeoisie.

More striking still, those whose undyed roots are genuinely proletarian have gone through a process of gentrification more comprehensive than any Islington terrace. The Gallagher brothers, when not sipping champagne in Downing Street, shelter behind the wonderwalls of vast Hampstead villas. Bryan Ferry and Jools Holland see rather more of the aristocracy than the clerks do in the House of Lords. If Britain continues to produce millionaire rock stars at the rate it does now, then future fans will find that it is not Romford and Hull but Blenheim and Polesden Lacey which have to be visited in order to glimpse the nation's stars in their natural milieu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Yours sincerely,

February 6.

JOHN WADHAM.

Director, Liberty. 21 Tabard Street SEI 4LA.

tile, Canute-like gesture.

side the jurisdiction.

From Mr Richard A. Edwards

Sir, Given the power of the Internet to

disseminate globally information, the Lord Chancellor's proposed system of

prior restraint in privacy cases is a fu-

The power of the internet was re-

cently illustrated by the availability of

information on Jack Straw's son des-

pite an injunction preventing the publication of his name in England and

Wales. Those of us resident in Eng-

land or Wales were easily able to read

the details on Websites registered out-

What, then, is to prevent a news-

paper registering a Website in the US

thereby enjoying the protection of

First Amendment and avoiding the

sanctions of the Press Complaints

60 Queen's Road, Devizes SN10 5HW.

Sir, How dare Lord Irvine of Lairg

have the effrontery to claim that there

exist circumstances in which "the

public would not be supportive of the

ideas of a free press" (report, Feb-

I am "the public" and there are ab-

solutely no circumstances in which I would not be supportive of a free

press. There have been occasions

when I have despised their excesses,

but I would vigorously defend their

I do not have the same protective

feelings towards inexperienced Lords.

have manifestly failed to control and

The Commons tailure gives no rea-

son for optimism that they will wel-

come an elected second chamber to do

their work for them. It is "our citi-

zens", so poorly represented, who suf-

fer from our discredited Parliament.

I suggest that we leave the Lords.

with all their constitutional diversity.

their patient expertise and their occa-

sional battiness, to get on with it as

Sir. I was cheered by Magnus Link-

later's friendly article this morning.

Talking to us crossbenchers before

the election. Tony Blair stressed the

importance of our independent role in

the Upper House. The Leader of the

House, Lord Richards, reiterated this

again only last week.

There are 321 of us, and we are a

disparate group indeed: 208 are here-

dirary peers. 113 of us are lifers. We

are (or were) businessmen, lawyers,

judges, JPs. farmers, accountants,

bankers, diplomats, politicians, doc-

tors, academics, religious leaders,

civil servants, charity workers and

Hereditary peer or life peer - the

majority of us attained some distinc-

tion in our chosen work and are true

representatives of the areas of interest

which concern us. I cannot believe

that this myriad collective of know-

ledge will be lightly disbanded by the

Bill to be laid before us in the next ses-

sion. Where else would you receive

such expert advice for £34.50 per day?

The changes in courses and modes

even one ex-actor — me!

BRIAN RIX.

February 5.

February 4.

House of Lords.

The age of the senior citizen".

25 Kensington Park Gardens, London WII 2QS.

scrutinise government.

Yours faithfully

January 3i.

From Lord Rix

Castlegate House.

WILLIAM WYNDHAM,

Lewes, East Sussex BN7 IYT.

right to earn my fury.

Yours faithfully.

M. EVERS.

February 5.

RICHARD A. EDWARDS,

From Mrs Marguerite Evers

February 6.

ruary 5).

Balancing freedom of speech with protection of privacy

From Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC

Sir, The European Commission and the Court of Human Rights have long made it clear that the right to free expression is paramount; that the role of the press in acting as purveyor of news and opinions on matters of public interest is essential to a healthy democratic society; that any restrictions of free speech must be strictly scrutinised to ensure that they are justified by pressing social needs; and that prior restraints on publication (letters. February 9) may be imposed only exceptionally and only where the public interest manifestly so requires. The European Court has also made it clear that public figures cannot use privacy claims to suppress or chill re-porting by the media on matters of

By enacting the Human Rights Bill, Parliament will require British courts to give effect to Article 10 Iguaranteeing free speech) and to have regard to the Strasbourg case law. In that way, the Bill will greatly strengthen the freedom of the press and of the public. The courts will have to ensure that statute law and common law do not unnecessarily hamper free speech.

But freedom of speech is not absolute. It has to be balanced against other basic civil rights, including the right to respect for personal privacy guaranteed by Article 8. The media cannot take advantage of the benefits of Article 10 without accepting the responsibility to comply with Article 8. Even ministers or newspaper editors are entitled to protection against gross intrusions on their private lives, unconnected with any legitimate public interest. In my view, our courts will give that protection under the common law, quite independently of what is required by the Convention.

Surely it is in the interests of the media that the Press Complaints Commission should have the power to give effective remedies to the victims of the misuse of the powers of the press, including the power to give compensation. That would make it much less necessary to have recourse

to the courts. It is also in the interests of the media that the PCC is a public authority, able to be challenged by judicial review if it unnecessarily restricts free speech. I do not believe that it should become a court of law, or that it

Musical education

From Dr Isidor Jack Lyons

should be empowered to impose prior restraint" preventing threatened invasions of privacy: but, to the ex-tent that the PCC is unable to grant effective remedies, it will be left to the

It is essential that the courts should

welcomed by the media.

Yours sincerely ANTHONY LESTER. House of Lords.

The press have not been well served

The argument for exemptions is un-

Reform of the Lords From Viscount Runciman

Sir. As the founder of the Leeds Inter national Pianoforte Competition, and as Fanny Waterman's predecessor as chairman, I support her call (letter. February 7) for greater government commitment to musical education. I am equally convinced that this vital matter must not be considered in iso-

In civilised societies music has never been viewed as a discrete part of the syllabus or of life - an option with which to dispense as soon as money runs short. Music is an essential complement to the study of mathematics and of logic. It is one of the few ways known to mankind through which one can make the heart sing whilst

helping the mind to soar. Music should be at the very centre of our lives, and the best way to achieve this is to guarantee access to all, especially the young.

Yours faithfully, Residence Alexandra, Di. La Frasse. 1837 Chateau D'Oex, Switzerland. February 10.

From Professor Emeritus Wilfrid Mellers

Sir, I was gratified that your correspondence columns gave liberal space to those supporting Sir Simon Rattle's denunciation (letter, January 23) of the Government's attack on music education, especially at primary level.

Your leading article (Passing the baton", February 7) on modern classical music is, however, a different cup of tea. If embryonic composers had been encouraged over the years to make pretty tunes and charming harmonies according to the rules, there would have been no Stravinsky. no Janáček, and, above all, no

Yours faithfully. WILFRID MELLERS. York YOI 2BX. February 10.

From Mrs Janet Atkins

Sir. The Hungarian composer Kodály wrote: 'Our age of mechanisation leads along a road ending with man himself as a machine; only the spirit of singing can save us from this fate." He established a method of teach-

ing singing to primary school children, using hand signals to indicate the notes, which is cheap, extraordinarily effective and a gift to a child for life. Could Sir Simon Rattle please find a means of encouraging this simple technique to be established in our primary schools?

Yours sincerely. JANET ATKINS. Cross House, Camforth, Lancashire LA6 2NX. February 6.

Business letters, page 25

convincing and deeply unauractive. The rights in the Convention are very important but only provide the most basic of protections: the Church and the press will be damaged not by this Bill but by their attempt to wriggle out courts to do so. of accepting the duties that will be inposed on everyone else.

only grant injunctions restraining the media in exceptional cases of real necessity, based upon demonstrable evidence that the public interest so requires. That is entirely in step with the Strasbourg case law, which will inform the way in which British courts protect Convention rights.

The Human Rights Bill will require our courts to grant injunctions against the media only in such exceptional circumstances. It will protect the individual against the misuse of public powers, giving our courts a similar role to those of courts throughout the com-mon law world and it deserves to be

From the Director of Liberty

Sir, It is particularly unfortunate that the Churches and the newspapers, which have been important allies in the campaign to obtain proper protection for human rights in this country. are now among those jobbying for exemptions for themselves from the provisions of the Human Rights Bill (reports, February o.

The rights contained in the European Convention, which is being incorporated by this Bili, are not as allencompassing as the Churches and the press seem to think; for instance, in the absence of employment protection or a free-standing anti-discrimination provision, the Churches' fear that their schools will be forced to employ non-believers (letters, Feb-

by those who have made exaggerated claims about the privacy provision. As the Lord Chancellor has argued, the simplest way for the Press Complaints Commission to avoid litigation in the courts against newspapers is to ensure that the Commission provides effective remedies for those who have suffered unjustified invasions of their

ruary 5) is unjustified.

1969. Since then, while the Lords have soldiered quietly on, the Commons

of Doxford, FBA Sir, I must take issue with Lord Maitland's apparent belief (letter, January

31) that, once the existing rights of hereditary peers have been abolished, an elected second chamber is the only alternative to "a system in which the Prime Minister packs the chamber vith allies". Such a contention not only ignores the Prime Minster's stated intention of

retaining a substantial number of crossbench peers: it also fails to recognise that it would be entirely feasible to put in place a system of open nomination, careful scrutiny and non-partisan appointment, based not on patronage but on merit. Advocates of an elected second

chamber need to ask themselves both whether the most suitable potential members would be willing to stand in contested elections and whether some demonstrably less suitable candidates might not succeed in getting elected. It goes without saying that real power would remain with the elected House

Yours faithfully. RUNCIMAN. House of Lords. February 2

From Mr William Wyndham

Sir. The "sinister silence" of which Lord Maitland speaks is not in the Lords. A large number of peers have let it be generally known they will welcome any overall reform of their House that "opens up our democracy and strengthens the rights of our citi zens" (in the spun words of Labour's election manifesto); but they will not accept a removal of the hereditaries until a satisfactory alternative is put in its place. That position fits fair and square with their traditional role as guardians of the constitution.

No - the ominous silence is in the House of Commons, It was strange alliances there that scuppered reform in

From Professor Stephen Tomlinson

Grade A doctors

Sir. You reported (January 30) the results of research by Professor Chris McManus and others, published in the British Medical Journal, on the relationship between A-level grades of students entering medical schools. their clinical experiences and their final examination performance. Your report concluded that "the wrong sort of people are becoming doctors". This was not a stated conclusion of the authors of the BMJ article.

The study by Professor McManus and his colleagues looked at students who applied for admission to St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London, in 1981 and 1986 and completed their courses in 1987 and 1992. They recognised in the BMJ article that the radical educational and curricular changes being introduced into medical schools since the publication of Tomorrow's

Doctors by the General Medical Council

may invalidate our lindings for future gen-

erations of medical students.

of assessment have been substantial. There is now more continuous assessment and less reliance on a final examination. Medical schools take more account of criteria other than Alevel performance when selecting prospective students and attach importance to their attitudes and values. It has long been recognised that A levels are not good predictors of performance in final university examina-

tions, whatever the subject. STEVE TOMLINSON (Executive Secretary). Council of Heads of Medical Schools, Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, WC1H 9HD.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

A perfectly happy prisoner, is Pooh

From the Misses Mary and Jane Pritchard

Sir. Gwyneth Dunwoody, MP, may claim that Winnie the Pooh and his friends languish imprisoned in a glass case in New York (report, February 6). but our annual visits to the New York Public Library's children's library. conveniently located across the road from the Museum of Modern Art. convince us that they are happy in their home surrounded by the best of children's literature.

They have been well cared for in New York — all gloomy Eeyore's wounds have been attended to — and they are pleased to welcome their special visitors. They have returned to England when invited to take part in exhibitions, such as one at the Victoria and Albert in the late 1960s that The Times itself recognised as a "Very Grand Thing" (report, December lo. 1969), but they appreciate that the welcoming staff of the NYPL have made their own special area into a new Enchanted Place where they can always play.

Yours faithfully. MARY PRITCHARD, JANE PRITCHARD. 56 Winston Road. Newington Green, Ni6 9LT. February 5.

From Dr Peter Cameron

Sir, In a television interview today, the Prime Minister said that it didn't matter very much if Winnie the Pooh and his friends were unhappy in the New York Central Library, because he seemed to remember they were always pretty unhappy in the books.

Except in relation to Eeyore, this is rather surprising. It's like remembering Dennis the Menace as the teacher's pet, or Billy Bunter as anorexic. Is our leader a Blair of No Brain At All? And should we any longer find it comforting when he tells us that he and his Government are working for our future happiness?

Yours faithfully, PETER CAMÉRON. Spoutwells House. Scone, Perthshire PH2 6RN. February 5.

From Mr Gyles Brandreth

Sir. You are quite right (leading article, February 5): Winnie the Pooh is one of the great immortals of children's literature. He doesn't belong to any one country. He belongs to the world. If A. A. Milne and his son were happy for Pooh to live in New York.

I hope it may be possible to arrange for Pooh to come to Britain for a visit. but those clamouring for his return should beware of chauvinism and be ready for a surprise. They may find the true Wignie the Pooh does not look quite as they expect. .

While E. H. Shepard based his matchless illustrations of Eeyore, Tigger, Kanga, Roo and Piglet on Christopher Robin's childhood toys, his model for the drawings of Pooh was not the English bear now in the New York Public Library. It was his own son's bear, Growler - a Steiff bear,

Yours faithfully.

GYLES BRANDRETH (Founder). The Teddy Bear Museum. 19 Greenhill Street. Strafford-upon-Avon CV37 6LF.

February 6.

From Mr Eduard Fuller

Sir. Winnie the Pooh and friends are not prisoners in New York as Mrs Dunwoody seems to think, but hard at work, as they have been for many years, increasing our gross national product and helping to balance our foreign trade deficit by bringing many US dollars into this country from royalties - as beneficiaries Westminster School and the Garrick Club, inter alia, will attest to.

Yours faithfully. EDUARD FULLER. Springfield Farm. Buckhorn Weston, Dorset SP8 5HX. efuller9@aol.com February 6.

High born

From Dr Vivian J. Phillips

Sir, Your report (January 30) on the return of the Reuss family to its estate in Gera, eastern Germany, did not mention one interesting fact -- namely that they feature in the 1980 edition of The Guinness Book of Records as having achieved the highest postnominal number ever used to designate a member of a royal house. This occurred with Count Heinrich LXXV

How this came about is described in detail in the 11th edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica. In the Reuss family the very odd custom prevailed of naming every male child Heinrich. Not surprisingly, it was necessary to assign numbers to them to be able to tell them apart.

There were two branches of the House of Reuss, the elder line of Reuss-Griez and the younger line of Reuss-Schleiz Gera. In the elder branch, the numbering could continue until one hundred was reached and then start again from number one. In the other branch (that of Heinrich LXXVI the numbering restarted at the beginning of each century.

Yours faithfully, V. J. PHILLIPŠ. 26 Derwen Fawr Road, Sketty, Swansea SA2 8AA. February I.





مكذا من الاجل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 10: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace

this morning.

The Rt Hon Tony Blair MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of

Her Majesty this evening.

By command of The Queen, the Baroness Farrington of Ribbleton (Baroness in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of Papua New Guinea and Mrs Atopare at the Royal Westminster Thistle Hotel, Buckingham Palace Road, London SWI, this afternoon and, on behalf of Her Majesty, welcomed Their Excellencies on their Arrival in this Country.

CLARENCE HOUSE February 10: Mrs Michael Gor-

Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. ST JAMES'S PALACE

February 10: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the European Union-funded Institute for Tra-ditional Medicine in Thimpu.

His Royal Highness was later received by The King of Bhutan. The Prince of Wales this evening attended a Reception at Moti Thang Hotel for the British

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 10: The Duke of Kent today attended a Lunch given by the Honourable the Irish Society at Mansion House, London EC4.

Awards

Institution of Mechanical

The Tribology Gold Medal

(administered by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers) was

awarded yesterday to the Swedish Scholar Professor Bo Olov Jacobson by the British Ambas-

sador to Sweden. Mr Roger Bone, CMG. Princess Lillian of Sweden

and Mr Carl Tham. Swedish

Minister for Education and Sci-

The German Ambassador yes-terday presented Mr Tim

Timmermann, former Managing

Director of Lufthansa (UK and

Ireland), with the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany at the Ger-

Turners' Company

Mr Peter Worlidge, Master of the Turners Company, presided at the annual awards court held

yesierday at Apothecaries'

Dr James Smith, Master of the

Engineers' Company, presented medals, prizes and certificates to

entrants to the Turners' Engineer-

ing Design Competition.

man Embassy.

Federal Republic of Germany

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, 23 Portland Place. London, Wl. at 3.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as president and honorary life fellow, Royal Society for the Encourage-ment of Aris, Manufactures and Commerce, will hold a president's forum at Buckingham Palace at

Sir James Dunnett

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir James Dunnett, GCB, CMG, will be held in Westminster Abbey on Monday, March 23. 1998, at 3,00pm. Those intending to be present are asked to notify the Ministry of Defence on 0171 218 2524/2628.

Judicial appointment

Mr Stuart William Baker, who has been appointed a Circuit Judge, has been assigned to the Northern

Dinners

Foundation for Science and Technology Lord Jenkin of Roding, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation

for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Dr George Poste, the Right Rev Stephen Sykes and Professor lan Kennedy were the steakers.

The Electrical Contractors'

Mr Bob Harris, President of the Electrical Contractors' Association, presided at the annual dinner held last night at Grosve-nor House, Mr Nick Raynsford, Minister for London and Construction, was principal guest and speaker. Office Bearers from the Leading Trade Associations. Confederations and Federations. AEEU, the permanent Civil Service. Members of Parliament and leading figures and company representatives from the electrical industry were among those

National Liberal Club Sir Christopher Bland, Chairman of the Board of Covernors of the BBC, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner of the Political and Economic Circle of the National Liberal Club held last night

at the club. Mr Charles Kennedy, MP, presided. Baroness Robson of Kiddington. the Hon Maurice Robson, Judge and Mrs Arnold Baker and the Rèv Dr Gordon Barritt were among those present.

University Women's Club Lord Birkett was the guest speaker at a University Women's Club dinner held last night at 2 Audley Square, Mayfair. Mrs Wendy Brandon, chairman, presided. The Institute of Public Relations The Institute of Public Relations last night celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a dinner at the Banqueting House, Whitehall. Sir Colin Marshall, President of the CBI, was the guest speaker. Mr

Peter Walker, President of the IPR,



The contents of this elegant drawing room at Hackwood Park will be sold in a grand house clearance

Press baron's house treasures go on sale

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

ART and antiquities from one age of 14 and came to London of England's great stately homes are to be sold in one of the grandest house clearances this decade.

A three-day sale will offer the contents of the 1760s Hackwood Park. Basingstoke, Hampshire. More than 1.000 works, including furniture, pictures, carpets and porcelain, are being sold by the executors of the estate of the 2nd Viscount Camrose, who died in 1995 at the age of 85. A total of some £3 million

Hackwood Park was the home of the Dukes of Bolton from the 16th century until 1935. It was purchased then by Wiliam Berry, 1st Viscount Camrose (1879-1954), the son of an estate agent in Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, who joined the local paper at the

is expected.

in 1898 with £10 in his pocket. He went on to build up a publishing empire that even-tually controlled The Sunday Times, Financial Times and The Daily Telegraph. His talent emerged early when, aged 13, he entered a précis competition to summarise a lecture on "Pessimism". The judge, an editor of the Merthyr Times, wrote: "This boy should take up journalism as a career." On the strength of this, he became apprenticed to the paper and went on to launch a paper of his own, the Advertising World, with £100 lent to him by his elder

The collection includes a magnificent George III giltwood mirror estimated to fetch up to £100,000 and an 1833 Turner watercolour, The estimated at £2,000 to £3,000.

of Hastne



A painting of Churchill playing cards by Paul Maze, which is expected to make £5,000 to £8,000

Bellerophon, Plymouth Sound, with Napoleon going into Exile, produced as an illustration for Sir Walter Scott's Life of Napoleon, esti-mated to make around £35,000. Among the more unusual offerings is a Victorian hand-operated fire engine, which was acquired by the 3rd Lord Bolton (1818-95); it is

The proceeds from the sale, which takes place between April 20 and 22, will go to a family trust. The house is also on the market for between £15 million and £20 million.

As the 2nd Viscount Camrose did not leave any children, the beneficiaries of nieces and their families -

his will are his nephews and more than 50 people.

Memorial meeting



Baroness Llewelyn-Davies The Queen was represented by Lord Carter at a memorial meeting held yesterday at the House of Lords to celebrate the life of

Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Lord Callaghan of Cardiff &C presided and the other speakers were the Rev Lord Soper, Baroness David, Mr Kenneth East, Lord Denham and Miss Hattle Llewelyn-Davies, daughter. The Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords attended. Among others present were:

Norman Kark, the editor of Courier magazine, who celebrated his 100th birthday yesterday. He founded Courier in 1938 as the Rolls-Royce of magazines, and continued editing and publishing until he was 86.

Glaisdale, Lord Prys Davies, Lord Marsh. Baroness Warnock, Lord Hampion, Lord Cledwyn of Penrinos, CH, and Lady Cledwyn, Lord Cocks of Harteliffe, Baroness Lockwood, Lord Wedderburn of Chariton, FBA, QC, Baroness Nicol, Lord Hughes, Baroness Trumpington.

Lord Rees, QC, Lord Rea, Baroness Serota, Lord Variey, Lady Jeger, Lord Barnett, Lord and Lady Williams of Elvel, Lord Kirkhill, Lord Strabolgi, Baroness Gould of Potternewion, Lord Clinton-Davis, Baroness Carnegy of Lour, Lord Acton, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Shepherd, Lord Gallacher, Lord Milner of Leeds, Baroness Strange, Lord Mackie of Benshie, Lord Suffield, Lord Ampthill, Lord Howell.

The Hon Edward and Mrs Alport, Mr Robert Sheldon, MP, Mr Ian Taylor, MP, and the Hon Mrs Taylor, Mr Tam Dalyeli, MP, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Tam Dalyeli, MP, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Tam Dalyeli, MP, Mr Sand Mrs John Weeks, Brigadier A Breitmeyer, Dr P Wilson, Mr Charles Woodhouse, Drk Lewis, the Rev Geoffrey Lang, Mr Richard Bramwell, QC, Mrs J Ud'A Campbell, Dr Mary Buchanan, Miss Delores Monreal, Mr J M Davies, Mr P D G Hayter and many other friends.

Service luncheon

HMS Victory General Hartmut Bagger, Chief of Staff of the Federal Armed Forces Germany, was the guest of honour at a luncheon held in HMS Victory yesterday. Admiral Sir John Brigstocke, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, was the host.

Aunnig outers present were:
Rear-Admiral John McAnally,
Florifienadmiral Claus Hirz, Brigadler-General Eckhart Fischer,
Commodore lain Henderson, Brigadler Brian Isbell, Captain James
Miller, Colonel Markus Bentler and
Lleutenant-Colonel Anthony
Barkas.

Turners' Company

Mr Peter Worlidge, Master of the Mr Peter Worlloge, Master of the Turners' Company, presided at the annual awards court held yesterday at Apothecaries' Hall. Dr James Smith, Master of the Engineers' Company, presented medals, prizes and certificates to entrants to the Turners' Engineering Design Competition.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.R.F. Brett and Miss R.J. Marland

The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Mr and Mrs Russell Brett, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire and Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Marland, of Emberton, Buckinghamshire.

Mr S.K. Brook and Miss J.F. Wright

The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Neville Brook, of Sandon. Staffordshire, and Jan, elder daughter of the late Mr Martyn Wright and of Mrs Wright, of Stonebridge, West Midlands.

Mr H.P. Carcy and Miss A. Spicer

The engagement is announced between Humphrey, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Carey, of Bradford Peverell, Dorset, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Julian Spicer, of Pakenham,

Mr E.T. Chalmers and Miss M.S. Gonzales Ugedo The engagement is announced between Edward, son of the late Mr Christopher Chainsers and of Mrs Keith Tulloch, of Monkton. Ayrshire, and Sonsoles, daughter of Señor and Señora Luan Gonzales Gomez, of Avila, Spain.

Mr R. Cockerill and Miss S.J.R. Airken The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Cockerill, of Learnington Hastings, Warwick-shire, and Sarah Jane, eider

daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Aitken, of Ealing, London.

Mr J.D.A. James and Miss C.A. Keogh The engagement is announced between John, son of Commander Roderick James, RN, and Mrs James, of Gilling East, North Yorkshire, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Keogh, of Letchworth, Hertfordshire.

Mr J. McCabe and Miss K. Bradshaw The engagement is announced between Jaimie, youngest son of Mr Alan McCabe and Mrs Jan Mr Scheinelburgh New Zealand. Ger, of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Kim eldest daughter of Professor Douglas Gough and Mrs Rosanne Gough, of Cambridge

Mr J. Medd and Miss E. Tillin The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Medd, of Corhampton, Hampshire, and Emma, daughter of Mr Garry Tiffin, of London SWI, and Mrs Margaret Tiffin, of London SW7.

Mr T.E. Shelley and Miss E.S. Walsh The engagement is announced between Tom, elder son of Mr and Mrs Allan Shelley, of King's Lynn, Norfolk, and Emma, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Roderick Walsh, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr D.J. Showering and Miss R.S. Nogocira The engagement is announced between Daniel, youngest son of the late Sir Keith Showering and of Lady Showering, of Sharcombe Park, Dinder Wells, Somerset, and Ronize, youngest daughter of the late Helcias Nogueira Baependy and Mrs Darcy Nogueira, of São

Mr P. Thomson and Miss K.L. Ackinson

and Miss K.L. Addressor.
The engagement is armounced between Peter, sur of Mr and Mrs Norman Thomson, of Sutton on Sea, Lincolnshire, and Katryna Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Atkinson, of Ballaugh, Isle of Man.

Marriage

Mr F.C. Minoprio and Mrs C.A. Thompson The marriage took place on February 7, at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, of Mr Charles Minoprio to Mrs Colleen

Birthdays today

Sir Ronald Arculus, former diplomat, 75: Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger, 73: Professor Marilyn Butler, Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, 61: Sir Alec Carrocross, FBA. former Chancellor, Glasgow University, 87; Brigadier Isin Cameron, 55; Dr Timothy Chanbers, paediatrician, 52; Mr C.H. Dearnley, organist, 68; Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, author, 83; Sir Archibald Forster, former chair-man, Esso UK, 70: Sir Vivian Fuchs, FRS, former director, Brit-ish Antarctic Survey, 90; Mr Michael Jackson, chief executive, Channel 4, 40; General Sir Jereny

Mackenzie, 57; Mr Leslie Nielsen. actor, 72; Miss Mary Quant, fashion designer, 64; Mr Burt Reynolds, actor, 62; the Earl of Rosebery, 69.

Mr Patrick Holmes Sellors, oghthalmologist, 64; Baroness Sharples, 75; Mr Dennis Skinner, MP. 66: Mr John Surtees, former motorcycle and motor racing champion, 64; Mr E.W. Swanton, author and sports commentator.
91: Miss Mary Tregear, FBA,
oriental art Ristorian, 74: Mr M.C.
Walker, chairman and chief executive Reland Prozen Foods.

Reception

The Lord Mayor and Lady May-oress of Westminster were the hosts at a reception held last night at Westminster City Hall for Warrant Officers, Sergeants, Chief Petry Officers and Petry Officers. The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London and the Secretary of State

were among those present.

for Defence attended.

Representatives of the House-

Lord Mayor of

sort of King Henry VII, London,

Anniversaries

hold Cavalry Mounted Regiment, The King's Troop RHA, the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, the 4th Battalion The Royal Green Jackets, 101 (London) Engineer Regi-ment (EOD) (V), the London Regiment, the Westminster Dra-goons and HMS Westminster

BIRTHS: Elizabeth of York, Con-

1465 ishe died this day, London, 1503); William Fox Talbot, photographic pioneer, Lacock Abbey, Willshire, 1800; Thomas Alva Edison, inventor, Milan, Ohio, 1847; Farouk L. King of Egypt 1936-52. Cairo, 1920.

DEATHS: Sir Charles Parsons.

inventor of the steam turbine, Kingston, Jamaica, 1931; John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmin, novelist, historian, Governor-Gen-eral of Canada 1935-40, Montreal, 1940; Sergei Eisenstein, film director, Moscow, 1948.

Bernadette Soubirous stated that a vision of the Virgin Mary had appeared before her, Lourdes, France 1888.

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teaching you received; observe it and repeat. If you do not wake up, i will come upon you like a thief, and you will not know the moment of my coming. Revelation 3:3

BIRTHS

ALLEN - On February 7th 1998 to Wendy (née Simmonds) and Oliver, a son, Freddy Antony. AL-MAHYAN - On 1st February 1998 in Abu-Disabi, U.A.E., to Tahnoon and Layle, a beautiful son Khalid, a beauther for Mahra and Nahayan.

BARRD - On February 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Mylane (née Histopostan) and Graeme, a son, Angus James.

BOLTON - On February 7th, 10 Serens (née Mytten) and Dominic, a son, Louis George, collegatch - On February 4th 1998, to Lucinda (née Forter) and Phillip, a son, Thomas Mark Vincent, a beother for Tonia, Alexandra Rozanna and Emba.

DOGMER - On February 7th at The Pertland Hospital, to Lillian and Nicholas, a son, George Dimitri, a brother for Max and Nikita. Life is so

JOHNETS - On February 5th at The Fortland Hospital, to Johnna (see Cowan) and Peter, a daughter, Isabella Rachel Daiches.

HAYES - On Thursday 29th January born to Extherine Agnew and Goorge, a Caughter, Jade Agneta Snowdayp, a sister for LEODELL - On January 30th, to Money MocDougali and William, a sun, Gooffiey Charles.

SEEK - On February 5th 1998 at St Thomas' Bospital, to Sophie (see Butchinson) and Nigel, a son (Harry Kingsley), a brother for Tom. PEFER-STAFFORD - On February 5th at The Por

SELLS - On February 7th 1998, to Kate (née Hatch) and Andrew, a son, Edward Pennonel.

SHAW - On January 26th at Royal United Hospital, Set to Chris and Julia, a son, Benedict, a brother for

AMERICAN - On February 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Anastanta and Chris, a chughter, Airigall Grace Elemor, a sister for Zachary.

BIRTHS SWIDERSIÖ - On February 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Thompson) and Karlini, a daughter, Alexandra, a sister for Alinia.

also spoke.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SCHRESON - (Robert) Mrs Murial (Nobby) johnson wishes to sincerely thank al-the many friends who have supported her through the sad loss of Robert (Johnny), to the staff at Stepping Hill Hospital for their care and attention and Rev. Sincon White for his conforting uninterations.

DEATHS

APPLESY - Leella, inte of Shifnal Manor, Shropshire, died pescathily on 2nd February. Pubsical Service on Thursday 12th February at 2.30 pm at St Andrews, Shifnal.

RAM - Née Geldof, Helenc Marie Auguste Josephine peacefully at Crispins Numing Home on February 9th after a long Hinesa home with counage. Much leved mother of Mark, David Feter and Rosslind and grandmother to Augu, Crispin, Annapura,

reception assume and grandmother to Aura, Crispin, Annapurna, Walistan and Citrie, Funeral Service 11 am Honday 16th February et St Joan of Arc, Faculum, Surrey, Family flowers only, but donations to Multiple Scherosis Society.

BRADIFIELD - Michael Seymour, suddenly on January 20th in Kemptville. Beloved husband of Jacqueline and deroted faither of Christine, Ann and Jane. Letters to Box 534, Kemptville, Cotario, EOG 1 JO Canada. puscefully at her home in homein, Stelle, Shelle Aunora Institute, Shelle Aunora Institute, wife of inte Ronald Arthur and devoted mother of Richard. Funeral on Thursday 19th February 1978 at Plaistow Cemetery, Brumley at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations to Chariton Frank School Fund, to Francis Chappel & Sons, 231 High Street, Brumley. Tek 0181-460 1720. DEATHS

CARTER - Violet Gertrade on February 7th peacefully at home aged 90. Seloved of family and friends. Funeral Service at St Oppriant's Church, Clarence Gate, NW1 at 12 noon on February 17th, followed by interment at St Marylebone Consetery, East End Road, East Finchey, NZ. No flowers by request. Donations welcomed to Marie Carie Cancer Care Col Carvaton & Sons Ltd., 212 Evensholt Street, NW1 18D. COLINI-RUSS - Dr. Ermost OBE

pescefully justicity 31st aged 94. Dearly loved uncle of Pamela and Valerie; missed by all who knew him mined by all who knew him.
COOPER - Verma, Mary (nie
Housfall), loved widow of
Harry, peacefully after a
long illness on 8th February.
Foneral at Hanworth
Comestorium at 2.30 pm on
Thursday 19th February.
Flowers and unquiries to
Lodge Erus, Sheppatrus, tel:
(01932) 220081.

(01933) 220051.

CRAWFURD - Peacefully at the Mangorial Hospital, St. Andrews, on February 10th.
1998, Margaret (Meta) of St. Andrews, dear wife of the late Alexander Conviord, loving mothet of Alestair and dear sister to Lementh and Innes Meckende.

Survice to be held at the graveside Wangen Conviers,

Scripts to be seed at the graveside Western Cometer; St Andrews on Friday Pebruary 13th at 10:30 am, to which all friends are invited.

invited.

DAUMEY - Harold Thomme Chadwick, aged 81 years, On 7th February, 1998 peacefully at Cathrust House, Bampton, Oxfordshire, Seloved bushead of Alva, Author of Pet and Christopher and geneticather of Jame and Met. Formenly with the Ford Motor Company, Funenal will take place on Friday, 13th February, 1998 at 11.30 am at Caford Gregatogram. Family Howers only places, but donastions, if desired to Louiscomia Basevach Femi, clo Green & Co., Funenal Directors, 10 Bridge Street, Winny, Oxob. CHE 6 YH.

DAWIS - Lieutenant Colonel

DAVIS - Lieutenant Colonei DAVES - Lieutenant Colonel Tanance John Davis AGCCALS), on Sth February, after a long Uness counsigeously bushs, aged 53 years, beloved hutband of Sophia and only son of the late Enbert and Ellean Davis, Funeral Service 12.30 pm on Monday 16th February at Daired Reformed Church, Creerent Eaud, Sectembers. Opined Reformed Clearing, Crescont Road, Seckembers, Kent, fullowed by buxial at Hither Green Cemetery, Verdant Late, 525, Enquirie to Copeland & Son Ltd. 9 Bromley Road, Bockenham, Kent NES 5NT.

de WET - Ringh tiled unexpectedly on Tuesda 3rd February 1998. Form political correspondent 3rd February 1998. Former political correspondent with this newspaper, public relations consultant, artist and writer. He is pointfully missed by Charlie, Adrian, Lorraine and his many friends. Service at Christ. Church, Spitatifields on 16th February at 1 pm, followed by private burial. Domntions if deshed to the Car. Petrottion League Teli. 01403 221900.

DRUGGERORD - On 10th
February 1998, Dr. Hugh M.,
Shrute House, Shrute, Co.
Longford, Larte of
Rechaldron, Navan, Mouned
by his wife Fatricia and
datality, Eatherine, Declar,
Paula, Riaise and Louise.

purecan - Brian Sharwood of February 8th 1998 aged 66 years peacefully at home in Temeration. Dearly loved by us all Femeral Service to be held at 8t Mildred's Chunch, Tantardem, Kent on Monday 16th February 1998 at 1 pm, followed by a private family cremation at Charing Camatorium, Ashford Indianakof that we calebrate his life and not mount his death. All enquiries to T.W. Feggle & Son Funeral Directors, 20 Ashford Road, Tenturdem, Lean Thos 660, set (01580)

FORTUNE - (Née Biden) Auriol Pamela, percefully on 7th February 1998 at the Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, after a long Ulness.

GARDMEN - Ethel
(Jamey/Hedy), Februssy 6th
at home, in Siderup aged 89.
Widow of Jim, mother of
Noel and Christopher.
Service at Etham
Crematophum on Friday
Februsry 13th at 2.45 pm.
Enquiries to Francis
Chappell on Tel-0181 309
6234.

HARM - Kathleen (Kay). Died on 7th February 1998, aged 82 years of Tenby and Warrach. Dear sister of Alison Doubleday and Genicine Tracy, much loved Anne, and friend of many. Cremation private. Debatis of Thanksgiving Service will be amounced inter, Debatics, if desired, to Medway Enephral RES Trass Pand cio B. High & Sons, I Brytard Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.

HARDING - North Harding B.E.M. peacefully at Thirdlegate House, Charmouth, Dorset on Seturday 7th February 1998 after a full and active life. A dear friend of Alicia Dougan, Funant to be hald at Bettiscombe Church on Francia to be held at Bertiscombe Church on Monday 16th February at 2.30 pm followed by Internsent. Femily flowers only, dependent to Emriliag Howards, despectation in memory of Norah e/o Al. Waterly & Sons, 7a Silver Street, Lyme Engls.

HARGERAVES - Inches née
Eunier baloved wife for 30
years of Jack, Died on
February 5th at
Winnarbourne Hospital,
Dorchester, after a short
filness, No flowers.
Domations to Macmillan
Nurses of Collin J. Close
Puneral Sarvice, 1B
Salisbury Street, Rianciford
DT11 7als, 01268 483133.
Puneral - Salisbury

Poneral - Salisbury Crematorium 220 pm Pebruary 23rd. Hill - Reigh Wantlew after & dil - Jaiph Wantaw atter a thort illness passed away peacefully 7th February 1976, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Private funcial. No flowers. Domations to Cancer Research.

HOLBOROW - Christopher
Adrian GEE died enddemly on
holiday abroad on
Wednesday 4th February.
Beloved knahand of Wanda
(d.1962) and Caroline,
Lowing fathur of Caroline,
Emma and John and devoted
gandfather of Alexander
and Rit. Private burial,
Memorial Service to be laid
at St Lawrence Jerry, Next
Goffdhall, London, Tuesday
24th February 21.20 am. All
enquiries to Bowland Broa.
(0181) 660-55-7.

HORES HIGH - John, died peacefully at St John's Haspice on 6th February 1998, 2001 95 years, Much loved father of jennifer Bute Funeral at Motthibs Commercian at 12 noon on Crematorium at 12 hoon on 12th February. Donations to E.S.P.B. R.S.P.B.

Highes - On Saturday
February 7th, pascatully in
bospiral, june biarganet,
horing and deady loved
mother of Tony, Tim and
Simpa. She joins her
husband bavid, together
ageth in love Funenal
Service at \$7 Andrew's
Church, Backwell on 13th
February at 12.45 pm.
Family flowers only please,
but donations, if desired to
Backwell Community Health
Find of Arthur Deny and
Sons F/D, 82 Silver Street,
rialises, Existed 1948 2DS. Residité - On February 8th, 1998, at Communi House Nursing Home, Huntingdon Mangaret (née Campbell Ward), beloved wite of the late Comde. H. L. Jenkins OSE, DSC, RV (rend) and much loved mother of Richard and grandmother v Samh and Caroline. Funers Service at the Church of St John the Baptise, Listie Somericad, near Mahneebur on Friday 13th Rebrary at 3pm. Femily Howers only. Tousactions if desired, for Little Somericad, for Little Some

KEEFE - Thomas, beloved son of Terance and Jamet and houther of Alexandra, died peacefully, aged 12, in McRourne, Australia on

packetury, specials on halbourne, Americals on February Side, greatly mourned by Gunney and by his sunds, uncles and counts in the UK and France. On this, the day of his functed, our thoughts and payers are with all the family in Americals. Our gratitude goes to all who looked after Thomas and to all who kept him in their hearts and payers throughout the long illness he bore with such indominable courage.

LONG - On 7th February penentully at Abbotsbury AFE, Bigleswale, Denothy Manyaetise (nde Whitney) of Stockold aged \$1. Belowed wife of James, much loved mother of Sinces, David, Cotherine and Dysphana and Genny loved mother-to-law and gramy. Funcal Service at & Mary's Church, Ashwell, Hertfordahire on Tusadey 17th February at 230 pm, followed by committed at \$1 Micholas' Church, Hinrworth Paully flowers only pieces.

Douations, if desired, to Abbotsbury AFE, should be sent of a IR Croach, 23a Hinchin Street, Baldock, Hertfunishire.

MALEY - Pencefully on February 9th Dr. Mary C. Maley MS BCh, very much towat and admired mother, gundinother and prest-grandmother. Frivate cremation followed by Sarvice of Thankspiring at Emmanuel Causch, The Ridgewy, Whobbledon, SW19 on 16th February at 1.1.15ats. Family figurers only.

MATHEREN - Mary Julia, on 9th February 1998, pascafully at Southersfown Russing House, chipping Norton, aged 81. Beloved wife of the late Anders Mathiesen and a wonderful mother to Charles and Rary and grammether to Lottle, Rosie and George who will all wiss her greatly, Fransal

and gandmother to Lottle, Ends and George who will all miss her guestly. Femeral Service on Tweedry 17th Polymery at St Bartholousew the Less, Smithfield, ECI, at 11.20 as. Femily Howers only pisses but donations if desired to the Rahers Association, St Bartholousew's Hospital, c/o E. Locks & Son, Brailes, Bunbury, Caon. (sel: 01606 685274). Saturday Pelansary 7th 1998, hushand of Kuncy and loved by all the family, Private creasation followed by Enquien Mass in St Peter's Charch, First Turn, Walvercote, Caford on Zajday February 13th at 12 noon. No Slowers.

SUPERAY - Caroline (nde Hebbum), aged 51, of Scott Creek; Strifting, South Australia, Fractious descinter of Hildra and Raigh, Hebbum of Hinfletd, Berkshites, and wite of Grahame Murray. Mother of Son, Alice and Lucy, Gearty missed by her boothers and sistens and her many friends in Britain and Australia, Died February 8th 1998, Tel: 01344 425227.

HEMESON - H.F.C. (Freddie)
pencafully at home on 9th
rebroary 1998, most
beloved husband of Honor,
whower of Marie, Loved are
respected by family, friends
and colleagues. Penami at 5
Michael's Chanch, Chester
Square, 5WI at 12 noon on
18th February, Committal at
3 pm Patney Vale, Family
threets only, Donations if
wished to Cancer Research,
Saquinies to 1H. Kanyon,
(0171) 834-4624.

Obtome? - Cacil O'Bryan
Prinsaurice Eighth End of
Odrasy - Korann Vetrain died on February 5th at
Bourzemouth, (Banfarad of
the inte Rose Eatherine Durk
Prinsaurice (ade Silley)
Countess of Odrasy)
Friant at 2 pm on Thursday
19th February 1998 at
Boursemouth Counsturium,
Family flowers, Loustines if
desired for British Korann Pamily Howers, Lonestions if denimed for British Korean Vetrome Association, Wesser Rounch or The Bed Cross of A.B. Jointife & Son, 17 Victoria Road, Randown, Denset BEIZZ 9HI (Teb 01.202 872050).

PARSONS - Peter William on 5th February 1998, Baloved instant of Valeria, much loved father of Richard, Stephen and Diene and dearly loved son of Betry and the late, Arthur Passons. Bequiets Mises St Teresa's, Ashdoni, Kent, 16th February 10.30 am, followed by capaciton at Charing Chematorium, Pandly flowers only, Donations if dealreft to Odynoty.

POCLE-Turnen Harin (nose Todifichen) at Emmymede Hospital Chertswy on 6th February, Estitud Lecturer University of Surey, Beloved wife, mother and genemochter, Franças Misses at St. Encouwald's Catholic Church Welton-oo-Themes on Tusseley February 17th at 11 ms. Family However only, but decentions to Samuelause appreciated clo P.W. Chitry & Co., 26 Beasery House, New Zealand, Avenue, Walton-on-Thumes, Surrey KT12 1GD.

RALLI- Jean, on 10th Rebussay 1998 pencatolly at home. Selected wife of Goddiny, mother of Louise and David. Private casespace.
Thanklegiving Service at 3t Mary the Virgin, Bastry on 17th February 1998 at 2.30pm. No Bowens places, but densitions may be made, if desired, to St Rany's Church, o'e J. Dibnot Smithel Son, Sencto: Lane, Woodnessborough, Sandwich, Kent CT13 (ED. Tel: 01304-812200.

SOWDON - Eigeboth nie Biddelph died pescafully in Bernyard Commendry for Bernyard Commendry for February 1998, agod 90 years, Femenal Service at St. Andrews Counch Hampton Bishop neur Hampton 12,20 on Monday 16th February. No Downsea. Work of the Mothers Union and The Church Eilenboury Society may be sent to Bayley Bouthen (Hambord) Lni. Cuttmell Street Hamston).

VESSY - On Pubrainry 5th 1998. Princefully at How Henry Johnson in his 51st year. Frances Service on Transfer, 17th February, 2.15 pm of the Downs Cremetochum, Bear Road, Reighton. No Howers plates but demarions if desired to Camer Basentons for Atras & Rest, 108 Crusch Bond, How, val 0.1273 821985.

Wiffit - Mona (niw Griffith) of Stemes Green and Highgare, Releved Mother of Victor, Sue and Jo, died pencerally at home aged 82. Denty loved to by all her tamily and friends and so untily indeed. Fromtal Tuesday 17th February at New Statingue Crematochym.

Crematochum.

WHILLAMSON - Peacefully at house, with his family on Petrany 5th Leading John Williamson aged 67. Beloved husband of Gwan, father of The send grandfather of Charite. He will be senly missed by all who knew iden. The funeral service will be held at 82 Michael? a Chunch, Highpate, London No at 20m on Tunsing February 17th followed by interment at Highgate Consetury. A single flower and a dountion payable to Shelter's hay be sent to Leverton & Som Ltd., 212 Zwansholt Street, London NWI, tal: (0171) 387-6075.

ANI SON EROVANE - Do was soci-intownig - Deallay Attahism on 9th February 1998 at home in Durban. South Africa, after a long linese hereity borne. Mourand by Veruselos and haby and their children. Camilla, Robert, Lucia, Muttay and Thish.

IN MEMORIAM PRIVATE SURTER - Roby May 11th February 1994. A beautiful lady who loved and was greatly loved. Ear loving family remember her with paids and thankegiting today and everyday.

IAN SOW-12.237-30.790. Remembered with love and pulse, today and every day. HOLF - Dun Muriel who died this day in 1981. Remembered with love by Jim and Geoffing.

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3RUARY II 1998

Maurice Schumann, French Foreign Minister, 1969-73, died yesterday aged 86. He was born on April 10, 1911.

are among the French politicians of his day in being thor-oughly Anglophile, as Foreign Minister under President Pompidou, Maurice Schumann did much to heal the breach in Anglo-French relations and to smooth Britain's path into the European Economic Community. It was a period in which he played a leading role in the development of what was then the Common Market. In his previous ministerial service under de Gaulle, from 1958, his strong European convictions had separated him from his leader. He had then been described as "the most European of Gaullists," yet "the most Gaullist of Europeans".

His appointment as Foreign Minister by the new President. Georges Pompidou, in June 1969, was a signal that France was intending to pursue a new policy towards the Community and the making of Europe. Most important, it sent a signal that France was not likely to continue to oppose the entry of Britain, and this transpired when Edward Heath signed the Treaty of Accession in January 1972.

The difference on Europe apart, Schumann had had a long attachment to de Gaulle. During the war he was the Free French leader's official radio spokesman in London. Afterwards he remained loyal to the general un most matters: only on European integration he never saw eye to eye with his chief, and he was never afraid to cross swords with him on the issue. Acknowledged on this side of the Channel as a good friend to Britain, Schumann was admired in his own country as a

public figure of great integrity. The son of a small factory owner. Maurice Schumann was born in Paris and educated at the Lycée Henri IV (where the philosopher Alain was one of his teachers) and at the Sorbonne, where he took an arts degree. Jewish by ment Républicain Populaire

to Catholicism, and strongly held Christian Democrat ideals were to dominate all of his career.

Before the war he worked as a journalist, joining the Havas news agency in 1932. As well as covering stories in London for the agency, he wrote articles denouncing the Munich Agreement and appeasement. in 1938 he published Le germanisme en marche. In 1939-40 he served as a haison officer with the British forces in France. Then, when he heard de Gaulle's defiant broadcast of June 18, 1940. calling on the people of France to fight on, he hastened to join him in London and developed a warm fidelity, working as de Gaulle's spokesman and making nightly broadcasts — a total of L200 — to occupied France. It was this deep attachment to de Caulle which pervaded these broadcasts and gave them their compelling tervour. From 1940 to 1944 he was chief official broadcast

er in the BBC's French service. In June 1944 he took part in the Normandy landings and was one of the first French officers to set foot again on his native soil. He was personally decorated by de Gaulle with the Croix de Guerre for bravery during the hotly contested passage of the River Orne and during the bitter fighting around Caen. It was at this period that he met the young artillery officer Edward Heath, with whom his destiny

was to be politically linked.

Schumann rose to political prominence soon after the war. In 1944-45 he was a member of the provisional consultative assembly, and he helped to found France's Christian Democrat party, the Mouve-ment Républicain Populaire, becoming its president in 1945. He held junior posts in several governments before and after de Gaulle's return to power in 1958, and revered the general as a wartime patriot and peacetime social reformer. But in 1962, along with several other leaders of his party, he resigned in protest at de Gaulle's disdainful attitude to

However, when the Mouvebirth, he was an early convert collapsed. Schumann joined

ar en efective a

European unification.



the Gaullist party in 1967, and later he returned to the Gov-ernment as minister first for scientific research and then for social affairs in the testing period just after the strikes of

When Pompidou became President in 1969, Schumann was his ideal choice as Foreign Minister: the man best equipped for the delicate balancing act of preserving a reassuring continuity with cer-tain Gaullist principles while also carrying out the ouverture in relations with Europe and America: that Pompidou thought essential. In 1971 Schumann was the first

French Foreign Minister to countries for so long. For his pay an official visit to London for eight years. Helped by his contribution to the successful outcome of negotiations he perfect English and his love for Britain, he built up warm was appointed an honorary GCMG in 1972. relations with Edward Heath

He was active elsewhere in and his team during the EEC the world, too, during his four years in charge of the Quai d'Orsay which marked the negotiations, doing much to remove the strain that de Gaulle had caused. As a zenith of his career. He visited negotiator, Schumann stuck to China, where he secured the his brief and could be tough. coup of a 90-minute talk with But he was happier when Chairman Mao, who did not committed to a course he normally receive foreign visibelieved in, and in his determtors other than heads of state. ination to give substance to Mao received him because he Franco-British co-operation, was an old Gaullist, and the he was able at last to dispel the Chinese leader was grateful to miasma that had overlain de Gaulle for having recog-

versation dwelt a great deal on the EEC, and particularly to the entry of Britain, which Man welcomed as a counter weight to the influence of America and the Soviet Union on Europe.

Schumann also went to Moscow, and in talks in Washington with President Nixon he helped to improve Franco-American relations. In North Africa he was able to rebuild French bridges with Morocco after the damaging Ben Barka affair. But his Middle East policy was less successful: Israel thought him too pro-Arab.

Though a tough negotiator. Schumann had a warm, direct and human approach to diplomacy. Foreign affairs were his life's speciality, and he was widely travelled. To the job of Foreign Minister he brought an ardour and optimism quite different from the habitual blase scepticism of some of his officials.

In the elections of 1973 he was defeated by a Socialist in the constituency near Lille that he had held since 1945, and so he was obliged to resign as a minister. Straight away, he sat down to write a novel. It was not his first. Thereafter he played little part in public affairs, though for some years he was a senator.

Much of the rest of his life was devoted to writing. He published biographies, essays and works of political philoso-phy as well as several more novels, one of them about a Mozart concerto. One remarkable book that offered an insight into his idealism was a study of Peguy, Gandhi and Simone Weil, three visionaries whose deaths were, as he acknowledged in Rilke's phrase, "the living consummation of their lives".

Maurice Schumann was a highly cultured and versatile man, a Christian humanist who used politics to translate his social and international ideals into action. He once said: "Alain taught me how to doubt. Simone Weil how tobelieve, and de Gaulle how to fight." He married, in 1944, Lucie

Daniel, whom he mer in London. They had three

THOMPSON Robert Thompson, CBE, Thompson returned to Ox-

PROFESSOR ROBERT

FRS. Courtauld Professor of Biochemistry, Middlesex Hospital Medical School 1965-76, died on January

15 aged 85. He was born

on February 2, 1912.

AS A biochemistry demonstrator in Oxford during the Second World War, Robert Thompson worked on the development of defences against possible attack with chemical weapons, devising in particular an antidote to the toxic effects of the poison gas Lewisite. This organic compound of arsenic had been developed in America towards the end of the First World War, and its reappearance in the 1940s was greatly

British Anti-Lewisite was one of the very first drugs to be developed not as a result of serendinity, but from a deliberate and logically pursued programme to fit chemical properties to a particular task. li was a very considerable achievement, and for his contribution Thompson was awarded the university's Radcliffe Prize for medical research. Continuing his work after the war, he was soon regarded as one of the leading minds in the develop-

ment of medical biochemistry The son of a Croydon doctor, Robert Henry Stewart Thompson was educated at Epsom College and from there vent as a scholar to Trinity College, Oxford. He took a first in physiology and spent a further year with a Senior Demyship at Magdalen as a demonstrator in the biochemistry department. He went on to Guy's Hospital to complete his clinical training for the Oxford BM. Then, in 1937, he went straight back to the laboratory and spent a year at the Rockefeller Institute in New York before his return to Oxford as demonstrator in biochemistry and as medical fellow and tutor at University College.

During the war Thompson travelled extensively in the United States on behalf of the Ministry of Supply to discuss drug manufacture. Then in 1944 he was commissioned into the Royal Army Medical Corps and stationed in North Oueensland, Australia, for a year. Here he was sometimes responsible for routine medical duties, though his experience as medical student long before left him scantly prepared.

Although British Anti-Lewisite was not used in the war for its original purpose, it proved to be effective in the treatment of Wilson's disease. a rare and very disabling genetically determined disorder of the nervous system.

ford in 1945 and in the following year, at just 33, he was appointed Dean of the Oxford Medical School. This remarkably young appointment was a clear indication of the high regard in which he was held by his colleagues and a pointer to his future success in public office.

In 1949 he left Oxford to return to Guy's as Professor of Chemical Pathology. His chair was one of a number founded at the time at Guy's where academic pursuits had previously been regarded by some with thoroughgoing suspicion. He remained there with a flourishing department until 1965, when he was asked to take over the directorship of the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry at the Middlesex Hospital.

Until the end of his time at the Courtauld Institute in 1975. he pursued his special interest in the nervous system and its disorders. He was especially intrigued by possible biochemical factors in multiple sclerosis, but despite the promising lines of inquiry and some very intelligent ideas, the work, as often happens in medical research, did not lead to any startling results.

Thompson served on several advisory committees at the Ministry of Defence, and from 1968 to 1975 he was chairman of the Chemical Defence Advisory Board at the ministry. In 1969 he was a member of a committee sent by the Home Office to Northern Ireland to investigate the effects of the use of CS gas.

He was joint author of two textbooks, one on biochemistry and one on chemical pathology, and published many scientific articles. He also urged upon his junior staff the importance of publishing the results of their experiments.

As secretary-general of the International Union of Biochemistry for ten years, he was responsible for the organisation of three international congresses. He was also honorary secretary of the Royal Society of Medicine, and president of the Association of Clinical Chemists.

From 1958 to 1962 he was a member of the Medical Research Council and he served committee. He was also for 20 years a trustee of the Wellcome Trust, which felt the benefit of his advice in the increasingly important field of biochemistry in medical research. He was appointed CBE in 1973, and the following year he was elected FRS.

He died in the year of the 60th anniversary of his marriage to Inge, who survives him with their son and two daughters.

VIC GIBBONS

Vic Gibbons, twice Britain's best all-rounder cycling champion, died on January 21 aged 75. He was born on June 13, 1922. FEW sportsmen's careers span 51 years, but Vic Gib-

FLIGHTS

bons, who started racing in 1940, remained in active competition until six years ago. Youthful aspirations, interrupted by the war years, were

UK HOLIDAYS

State of the second

rekindled when he returned from Army service with the Royal Artillery, mature and determined to stake his claim to fame as a road cyclist. When, after the age of 40, he was entitled to compete as a veteran, he rapidly rewrote the record books with a consistent display of speed that kept him

in the headlines. Yet he always said that while champion status gave

him great satisfaction, his basic enjoyment was the simple fun of racing with others and recording fast times. At heart, Gibbons always put his club and his colleagues first

His death was the third within five weeks of riders who have broken the British 50 miles time trial record: George Fleming (1 hour 59 minutes 14 seconds in 1947),

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Keith Bentley (1 hour 56 minutes 44 seconds, 1952) and Gibbons (I hour 56 minutes 24 seconds, 1955).

His success as a competitor stemmed from his love of cycling, together with a physical strength developed from handling 40-gallon oildrums at the Shellhaven refinery near his Essex home at Corr-ingham. He thrived on what cyclists call "hard days", when

the wind is strong and the roads undulating. The term "a Gibbons Morning" became

part of cycling argot.

He bought his first bike from a stall in London's Sunday market in Petticoat Lane (Middlesex Street) for five shillings, and had his first 25miles open time trial, promoted by his club, the Brentwood Road Club, in 1940. His trademark then and one which lasted for years was the use of a hairnet: not for aerodynamic reasons but simply to keep his hair out of his eyes and thus reduce interference to his concentration on turning the pedals.

It was a fashion that never caught on, but to him it was as important as the meticulous manner in which he prepared the bicycles he used to become twice Britain's "champion of champions" time trial rider in 1953 and 1954. In those two years he won the coveted best all-rounder time trial competition with the lastest average speed for the event at 50 and 100 miles and 12 hours. His 1954 average was 23.811 mph.

Gibbons relished the 1954 all-rounder award ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall. There to greet him was Louison Bobet, three times winner of the Tour de France, who presented Gibbons with the yellow jersey he had won in that year's race. The following year, 1955, Gibbons broke the British 50 miles record with a time of 1 hour 56 minutes 24 seconds. Between 1950 and 1955 he was never out of the top three in the seasonlong all-rounder competition. the acknowledged hallmark of

the year's outstanding champion in time events.

His potential was evident almost from the very start of his racing career and a 25 miles time of 1 hour 41 seconds set the cycling world temporarily agog with a mixture of surprise, admiration and disbelief. Only a week later he disappointed his new supporters when he was almost five minutes slower on a different course. But what some critics had not taken into account was that Gibbons had left his home near Laindon. Essex, at 4am to ride 40 miles to the event and was facing the return journey after the

When his wartime service ended. Gibbons returned to cycling competition, still preferring local events to those farther afield, although he was prepared to ride 80 miles to the famous Bath Road course the night before the annual classic 100 miles trial near Theale, Berkshire.

Age did not take its usual toll on Gibbons, and once qualified as a veteran he went on to set 44 national records, including a remarkable time of 1 hour 52 minutes 52 seconds in 1971 for 50 miles, almost four minutes faster than his 1955 British competition record. Even a serious accident while training - in which he suffered a shartered left leg - did not completely put an end to his active cycling. His last years, however, were marred by persistent ill-health. Vic Gibbons was prede-

ceased by his wife Peggy in 1981. There were no children.



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SKATING ON THE RIVER AT OXFORD

It is many years since there was such a wide field for skaters at Oxford. The Vice-Chancellor on Saturday issued a notice to the effect that the Oxford University Humane Society had men stationed with ropes and ladders in case of accident on the Thames between Oxford and Iffley and between Godstow and Medley, and on the Cherwell from its mouth to the Broad-walk and between Kingsmill and Marston Ferry. A number of undergraduates have indulged in curling. The game is a novelty at Oxford . . .

A serious accident happened to three gentlemen while tobogganing down the slopes of Royston-heath. A track of about a quarter of a mile over the frozen snow was being used, and the surface admitted of a high rate of speed being attained, Mr. Edward Nunn, a Royston gendeman, was taking down two friends, the Rev. H.H. Sheehan, curate of Royston, and Mr. Lucas, when a

ON THIS DAY

February 11, 1895 经加工企

A report of the rigours of a tough winter found skating at Oxford more interesting than the drowning of a nine-year-old girl when the ice gave way at Attercliffe.

horse, which was being employed to draw up empty sledges, got in the way of the descending sledge. One of the horse's legs was broken, and the animal fell upon the occupants of the sledge. The Rev. H.H. Sheehan, as the front occupant of the sledge, had the full weight of the horse upon him, and is seriously injured. Mr. Lucas was taken to the Royston Hospital suffering from a slight concussion of the brain, and Mr Nurn is believed to have had his collarbone broken. The horse was so injured

that it had to be shot. At Desborough, in Northamptonshire, the railway signal lamps, lighted by gas, have been put out and oil has been substituted owing to the frost ...

It has been arranged to start relief work at Spalding from to-day for the benefit of the agricultural labourers who are out of work. The river Welland is now frozen over, and there is also a fine stretch of ice extending for nine miles on the river Glen. This is free from snow, and forms the finest length of ice in the Lincolnshire fens. The Nene and the Ouse are both frozen over, and a 40miles' skating run can be had. Large numbers of fish are to be seen frozen in the ice. Thirty children on Sunday were sliding and skating on the Don at Attercliffe when the ice gave way and immersed three of their number. One, a little girl named Lily Law, aged nine years, got under the ice. A boy named Tom Downes rescued the other little girls with his belt, and then with a rope round his waist got out the body of the girl Law after she had succumbed.

rer inc

Personal identity cards for every citizen are being reconsidered as part of the package of new measures to improve public services. There are no plans to make them

Rough justice The High Court dispute between a golf club and a British Airways pilot who was expelled for making an allegedly racist remark was halted when the two sides agreed to a settlement......Page 3 In the doghouse

compulsory

Danhert Nobacon, the pop star who drenched John Prescott at the Brit Awards, will have some explaining to do when he rings his mother, she said....... Page 3

Union confrontation Tony Blair is considering a compromise over rights in pay negoti-

ations in order to head off his

biggest confrontation with the unions since the election... Page 4 Dem dry bones

Workmen have dug up a huge batch of human remains beneath the former London home of Benjamin Franklin, the father of

NEWS

Belfast murders jeopardise talks

مكذا من الاجل

Sinn Fein's place in the Stormont peace talks was in grave danger last night after republican gunmen killed two men in Belfast within 12 hours. Unionist and loyalist politicians said they would demand Sinn Fein's expulsion if the IRA was connected to either death.

The deaths ended a two-week lull after a series of sectarian and terrorist murders provoked by INLA's killing of Billy Wright in the Maze prison on December 27...... Page 1

Britons are leading ladies for Oscars

■ British stars dominated the Oscar shortlist for best actress. Dame Judi Dench was nominated for her portrayal of Queen Victoria in Mrs Brown, Kate Winslet for her role in Titanic, Helena Bonham Carter for Wings of A Dove and Julie Christie for Afterglow, which is not yet out in BritainPages 1, 9

Yeltsin confused

Ballerina caught out A supposedly bedbound ballerina Boris Yeltsin's first visit to Rome who was secretly filmed smashsince the fall of Communism got off to a bad start when he aping her flat before blaming vandals was freed after admitting peared confused and unsure who three charges of criminal damage he was talking to. But his meeting with the Pope went better. Page 1 and wasting police time .. Page 6 New look at ID cards

....Page 2

On their knees

Unfair taxation is crippling small parishes, the General Synod was told. One congregation demolished their church rather than pay the VAT that would have been due on repairsPage 8

De Niro arrested Robert de Niro, the American actor, was detained by French police investigating an international prostitution ring believed to involve showbusiness and financial celebrities Page 9

Cook ready to fight

Robin Cook disclosed the West's readiness to hit at President Saddam Hussein's power base as he warned the UN there could be Riyadh HQ plea

The US wants Saudi Arabia to allow the command headquarters for raids on Iraq to be set up near

Riyadh, despite Saudi opposition to military action...... Page 11 Charles in Bhutan

The Prince of Wales has joined the few visitors allowed to observe the ancient culture of the isolated Himalayan Buddhist American Independence... Page 5 kingdom of Bhutan....... Page 12

The Queen cuts stylist dead

Every week Paul Burgess travelled to Buckingham Palace from his salon in Cheltenham to do the Queen's hair. Yesterda he lost a claim for unfair dismissal. He believed he had been sacked because his salon had been taken over, but a tribunal heard the Oueen had asked for him to be replaced and for her involvement to be concealed to avoid offending him.... Page 1



Ruth Wilson, six, from Swansmere School in Walton-on-Thames, at the Festival Hall to play in the "Lollipop Prom" yesterday

BUSINESS

Economy: Record discounting in the winter sales helped inflation to fall sharply in January and enabled the Bank of England to hit the inflation targetPage 21

Pension: The sale of stakeholder pensions aimed at low-paid and financially unsophisticated people should not need to be regulated, insurers said

Reuters: Peter Job, chief executive of Reuters Holdings, insisted that he had no prior knowledge of alleged improper use of information owned by Bloomberg.......Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 12.4 points to close at 5613.3. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 104.2 to 103.4 after a fall from \$1.6340 to \$1.6243 and from DM2.9639 to DM2.9377 ... Page 24

Football: Michael Owen, who is to make his full England debut against Chile at the age of 18 years and 59 days, has been breaking

SPORT

THE TIMES TODAY

records all his life...... Page 36 Rugby union: Kevin Yates will decide in the next week whether to appeal against his six-month ban by the RFU for biting the ear of the London Scottish flanker Simon

Cricket: David Lloyd, the England coach, will force his players to review how they came to lose the second Test match against West Indies in Port of Spain..... Page 38 Racing: The weights for the Martell Grand National are headed on 12 stone by Suny Bay, runnerup to Lord Gyllene last year and Coral's 14-I favourite...... Page 34 | next week...

Home loving: Richard Cork revels in the luscious rural scenes and mastery of changing light on show in the Tate Gallery's superb Bonnard exhibitionPage 29

Euro-opera: One Brussels -initiative is about to pay rich dividends when the singers are chosen for European Union Opera and rehearsals begin for the company's first season ...

Lowe life: Veteran pop survivor Nick Lowe has shed his rock n roll shell and perfected a new persona that still provides a great night

Between the fines: The playwright Shelagh Stephenson was an RSC actress until she plucked up courage to write. Her second play opens

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Pier pressure: At 15, George Robertson stood on the pier at Holy Loch shouting CND slogans; at 51. he is Defence Secretary, ready to deploy British troops in strikes against Iraq. He explains the paradox to Valerie Grove......... Page 13 Civilisation: Nigella Lawson on the value society places on human life: government silence on the Salman Rushdie fatwa; why there should be no crèche in Parliament; cellulite cream confessions Page 13

The ring: That Dod and Dods Princess of Wales, meant to marry now seems beyond question. But did Dodi ever present the engagement ring? We continue serialising the journalistic investigation into Diana's death ____Pages 14. 15

Washington is doing all it can to root out Iraq's terror weapons by peaceful means. If military force is required to ensure that UN weapons inspectors can complete that job, America deserves Arab sunport. Arab leaders should stand united not against Iraq or its people, but against the crimes of its dictators - The New York Times Re-establishing the rule of law in Corsica requires a small revolution by a population that rarely demonmoer let us hone that the murder [of the Prefect] will have aroused a people which has top often been an accomplice of the terrorists through its respect for the

law of omertà - La Libre Belgique

Preview: The beauty babes are still scooping the prizes. Under the Sun (BBC2, 9pm). Rendere: Matthew Bond on an artist haunted by Pages 38, 39

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY II 1998

innocents abroad

Mr Blair should realise that he cannot be the toast of both Bail Clinton and Jacques Santer. The President should note that the special relationship cannot be reconciled with the creation of a European state Page 17

Beware the brothers

The 22 most carefully drafted words in Labour's general election manifesto are being fought over. with all the passion of the Early Fathers debating the status of the Holy Ghost _____

Pop pligrims

The British Tourist Authority has produced a vade-mecum to the nation's sites of pop pilgrimage which helps visitors to get back to where their heroes belonged Page 17

ROBERT SKIDELSKY

The Channel 4 series based on Nicholas Mosley's book makes a riveting and intelligent television. drama. But at the same time we feet. (or I feel) that we are being manipulated into a view of things which owes more to Nicholas Mosley's psychology and the demands of relevision drama than to an underspanding of history Page 16

SIMON JENKINS

Government rebels in the Lords' argue that there is something petaliarly fragile in a newspaper name. ket, which demands more attention than it is getting in the Cabiner's new competition Bill. Only parts noid politicians hold that news: paper proprietors deliver vote st. elections. But the press is influen-tial in most areas of public life: Newspapers take the agenda a politics and tear it apart Page The

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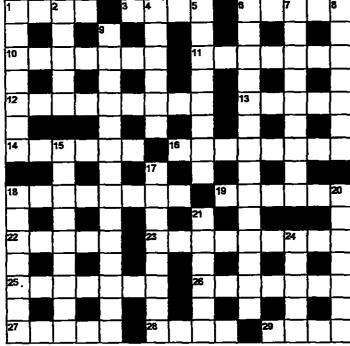
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(12 Car.)

Maurice Schemann, French Foreign Minister, Professor Robert Thompson, binchemist. Vic Gibbons, racing cyclist Page 19

Freedom of speech and privacy: Winnie the Pools reform of the Lords: musical education; grade A

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,712



ACROSS 1 Speed and power associated with successful service (4). 3 Start to poke with stick? (4).

6 Inclination to hear this composer 10 One performing in dodgy club needed a little bit of pride? (4-3). 11 Prison's severe critic (7).

12 Pink around opening in surface of body (9). 13 English short story about to lift one's spirits (5).

14 Hide most of the spots (6). 16 Harshness? It pays off when

imprisoning monarch (8). 18 German author I encountered in border city on Khine (8).

19 Having everyone striking with maximum effort (3-3). 22 Nothing found in search of hollow (5) 23 Powered flight (9).

Solution to Puzzie No 20,711

work such as Parsifal (not orgetting the Ring) may be forgetting effective (7).

energy (7).

28 Wind instrument and piano that's interrupted by another (4). 29 What's fired a male meeting maiden? Love (4).

1 Stick and whip will do for this

Singers having work reduced when one's brought in (5).
Some bridge that's liable to bend? Show end of world is nigh (8). Refrain from unnecessary tinker

ing and get water from tap? (5,4,5). 7 Review of topic aims to be congenial (9). 8 Give a roasting to right-winger throttling referee (7).

Like pay rises for all — or just the directors? (6-3-5). Quickly get to tennis player that's become exhausted (3,2,4). 17 Avoid arrogance and upset feelngs of offence (8)

18 Rodents around plunder a posable cause of disease (7). 20 Ray drank nothing, swallowing first of rum (7). Frozen area with rocks on top (3-

hydrogen in time (5).

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

London 5 08 pm to 7 21 am Bristol 5 18 pm to 7 30 am Edinburgh 5 08 pm to 7 45 am Manchester 5 11 pm to 7 44 am

NEWSPAPERS

forbidden fables

■ FILMS

■ BOOKS

Geoff Brown sees

with Joan Cusack

and Kevin Kline

the comedy In 8 Out,

Jonathan Sacks hails

Michèle Roberts finds

a history of Israel;

General: rain over Scotland and N Ireland heavy for a time. Drizzly in the west but eastern Scotland should orighten for a time. Drizzle over northern and western England and

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel s: mild day with some sun. Light SW wind, Max 13C (55F). SW England: Some sunshine but coastal drizzle and tog. Moderate SW

wind. Max 12C (54F).

S Wales, N Wales, NW England,
Lake District, Isle of Man: dull, hill and coast fog and drizzle. Moderate to fresh SW wind. Max 13C (55F). 🗋 Central N England, NE Èngland:

cloudy, dry and mild. Moderate to fresh SW wind, Max 13C (55F). 🗌 Borders, Edinburgh & Dunde Aberdeen, Morey Firth, NE Scot-land, Orkney, Shetland: morning rain. Fresh wind easing. Max 13C

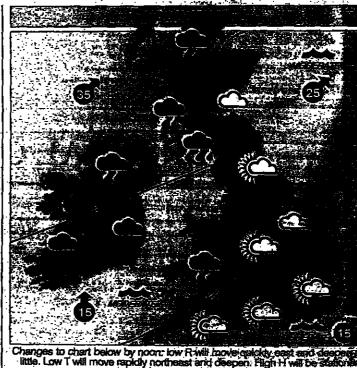
SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyli, NW Scotland: rain clearing. Fresh SW wind later easing. Mex 11C (52F). ☐ N Ireland: dull, drizzle, N SW wind. Max 12C (54F). ☐ Republic of Ireland: Patchy drizzle in south and west. Wind SW fresh to strong. Max 13C (55F) ☐ Outlook: Very mild, especially

east. Rain and wind will return to N

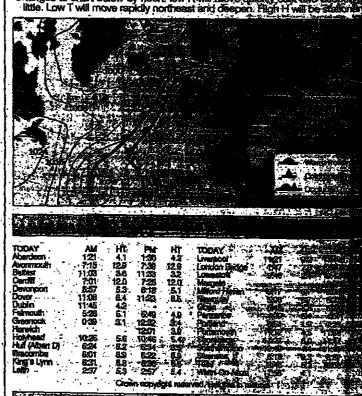
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INSIDE **TODAY**

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MICH LENKINS

"2 t of both Big



BUSINESS

Province grows from bombsite to business park PAGE 25



ARTS

Paul McGann is Jung and in love in a new play **PAGES 29-31**



SPORT

Yates maintains innocence and prepares appeal **PAGES 33-40**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO**

> **PAGES** 38, 39

BUSINESS

TODAY

STOCK MARKET

Federal Funds..... 57-4%* (57-6%) Long Bond 102%* (102%:::) Yield 5,93%* (5.95%)

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LONDON MONEY

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New York

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY II 1998

Job absolves Reuters board of blame

By RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

PETER JOB, chief executive of Renters Holdings, insisted yesterday he had no prior knowledge of any alleged improper use of proprietory information owned by rival Bloomberg.

"The same goes for the board," said Mr Job, speaking for the first time about the grand jury investigations into alleged behaviour at Reuters Analytics, the financial information group's US

subsidiary.
Mr Job has not yet accepted that illegal behaviour actually occurred but he insisted he has now made sure that none of his London main board members knew of any improper

behaviour. 🖓 Reuters Analytics a company which is involved in the development of new financial products, is not part of Reuters in the US but reports directly to John Parcell, the main board director in London responsible for financial

information products. Mr Job said that its own internal 'investigations ters Analytics " would take a long time to complete."

Mr Job was speaking as Reuters announced a 3 per cent drop in pre-tax profits to £677 million — its first drop in profit since becoming a public company. Ignoring currency effects

Reuters profits would have risen by II per cent. The underlying business showed growth of 9 per cent at comparable exchange rates but because of the strength of sterling reported revenues declined at actual rates by

I per cent to £2.88 billion. The strong pound spelled a 10 per cent cut in sterling revenues for Reuters in 1997. Now the pound has become even stronger and may well hold back revenue growth

in 1998." Mr Job warned.

Reuters also quantified for the first time, the cost of its millennium compliance programme. The total is likely to be around £75 million with £11 million aleady spent in 1997, £31 million expected this year with a similar amount in 1999. No estimates are ready for the cost of making Reuters products compatible with European Monetary Union. The City, relieved that the news was not worse, marked shares up 10½p to 572p.



Peter Job: not told

Just for the record: Charles Koppelman, former head of EMI in North America, whose new company will extend loans to top recording artists

Koppelman helps pop stars cash in

By Chris Ayres

CHARLES KOPPELMAN, who departed abruptly as head of EMI's North American division with an estimated £30 million payoff last year, has emerged at the helm of a new venture to help rock stars cash in on the revenue generated by their back catalogue of musical hits.

Inspired by the success of the so-called Bowie bonds, a fund-raising exercise by the singer David Bowie, Mr Koppelman has formed a company called CAK Universal Credit, in partnership with Prudential Securities, which will extend loans to those who have earned more than £200,000 a year for five years from intellectual property.

Mr Koppelman, who has previously advised Frank Sinatra, would not disclose his client list, but said Sir Elton John would be an ideal candidate. Mr Koppelman said: "I would like nothing better than to securitise his

Commission inquiry. But, it

Nomura's interest had sur-

prised the City, although the

Jananese firm had built a 2.21

per cent stake in the group.

There were suggestions Mar-

garet Beckett, President of the

Board of Trade, would refer a

that regulatory concerns had forced its exit. It said talks,

thought to have been with

Lehman Brothers, to sell Pea-

body Coal, had failed. Nomu-

ra had needed to sell to justify

raising its bid higher than the

Nomura yesterday denied

bid to the MMC.

kept talking to the others

Nomura stops

bid for Energy

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

NOMURA INTERNATION-

AL pulled out of the race to

buy The Energy Group yester-

day, blaming price and the failure of talks trying to sell

The sudden withdrawal of

Nomura's Principal Finance

Group, which is led by Guy

Hands, throws the spotlight on Texas Utilities. It said last

night it was still in talks with

Energy, owners of the UK's

Eastern Group electricity

business and Peabody Coal in

Energy agreed a £4.05 bil-lion offer last week from PacifiCorp, the US group,

which last year cleared a

the US.

Yen £ Index SSS DOLLAR

NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Apr) \$15.35 (\$15.45)

Tokyo close Yen 123,52

COLD GOLD London close..... \$299.85 (\$301.35)

* denotes mitiday trading price

Bad odour

Unilever is to sell or close down businesses generating £2 billion of group sales unless they show a marked recovery in profits. Elizabeth Arden, the perfume concern, is expected to be one of the first casualties. Page 23

On call

Don Cruickshank, the telecoms regulator, predicted a wave of mega-mergers between software developers and telecoms companies. 765p a share from PacifiCorp.

Inflation target is hit after sales discounts

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY **ECONOMICS**

CORRESPONDENT

RECORD discounting in the winter sales helped inflation to fall sharply in January and enabled the Bank of England to hit the inflation target for the first time since

it gained independence. Underlying inflation, which excludes mortgage interest payments, fell from 2.7 per cent in December to reach the Bank's 25 per cent target figure exactly. Headline infla-tion also declined from 3.6 per cent to 3.3 per cent in Janaury as retailers cut the price of goods in the winter sales.

It is the first time underlying inflation has met the target since May last year and will significantly ease pressure on the Bank to make any further

The Bank today publishes its Quarterly Inflation Report WALL STREET climbed to an all-time high as optimisal grew. Nikko Europe, said: The reearnings by as much as expected. The Dow Jones industrial average soured 139 points to reach 8.319.53 in afternoon trading. Wall Street last hit record levels in August but slipped back on fears over the potential fall-out from Asian turmoîl.

and is expected to forecast that the economy is now on course to meet the inflation target in

the medium term.

The City, which had been expecting inflation to remain stubbornly above the target level, welcomed the data with the stock market climbing back towards record levels. The FTSE 100 closed up 12.4 at 5,613.3, compared with the record high of 5,629.7 last Friday. The market also received a late boost from a strong

showing on Wall Street. However, the pound slipped on the foreign exchanges, clos-ing down two and a half prennigs at DM2.9377 and

falling from 104.2 to 103.4 on its trade weighted index. The decline in the inflation

figures was led by a 3.9 per cent monthly fall in houshold good prices — the largest decline yet. Clothing and foot-wear prices also tumbled by a record amount, sliding 6.6 per cent from December. The mild weather helped seasonal food prices to fall 0.4 per cent - the first monthly fall in January since 1972.

Economists said that unless there is a shock in the average earnings data, also released today, rates will probably rise no higher than the current level of 7.25 per cent. Simon Bris-

one director of research at the centre of the target is sym-

bolic of rates having peaked." The separate Confederation of British Industry quarterly regional trends survey, which was also published yesterday. showed business confidence falling at its fastest rate for over two years as export orders continue to struggle under the

burden of the strong pound. Eight out of eleven UK regions reported a decline in export orders, while all regions showed export prices continuing to fall.

☐ UK acquisition and merger activity reached record levels in the final quarter of 1997 because of the completion of the tie-up between Guinness and Grand Metropolitan. UKto-UK mergers totalled a record £15 billion with the creation of Diageo responsible for £12.5 billion.

Profit dip hits shares in BOC

BY PAUL DURMAN SHARES in BOC Group, the

industrial gases company, fell 66p to 905p yesterday when it reported disappointing firstquarter profits of £93.5 miltion, 9 per cent down on the previous year and about £10 million adrift of expectations. BOC was hurt by weak currencies in the Asia Pacific region and particularly in Australia, but analysts were also taken aback by what the company described as the poor performance of Ohmeda, the healthcare business that is to be sold for about £640 million. Ohmeda, still struggling with its anaesthetic gases arm, saw quarterly operating profits tumble from

£i3 million to £5.3 million. Some analysts suggested that BOC had been slow to accept the extent of its exposure to Far East economies. One said that he had been set to cut his forecast to close to the final outturn, but BOC had "poohpoohed" the need to do so.

BOC said that growth of opportunities had been curtailed in the Far East. Edwards, the vacuum business that supplies pumps to semiconductor factories, has seen orders fall after postponement of investment plans in the region. Danny Rosenkranz, chief

executive, said he expected underlying performance from the North Pacific this year to be similar to last year's. The main gases business made £94.7 million, down from

£96.4 million. BOC said this represented a 6 per cent rise after adjusting for currencies.

BNB Resources chairman goes

BY GEORGE SIVELL

DAVID NORMAN yesterday resigned as chairman of BNB Resources, the recruitment and training company that runs Norman Broadbent International, the executive headhunter.

His departure follows differences with the rest of the board over strategy and management and the role within the group of Norman Broadbent International, of which Mr Norman was executive chairman.

Despite recent institutional pressure on the BNB board to perform Mr Norman's departure was said not to be down to calls for him to resign.

Mr Norman, who became chairman in 1987 when the company was known as Charles Barker, has attracted criticism almost from the day Tempus, page 24 of his appointment.

A £43 million bid by WPP was under discussion in 1988 but never came to fruition. Last night BNB Resources was worth £37 million.

Mr Norman was on a twoyear rolling contract and was paid £627,000 in the last year. The matter of compensation was said to be in the hands of lawyers. He is succeeded as chairman of BNB by John Heywood, a non-executive director. Graham Durgan, chief executive at BNB, said the company needed "to go forward with a new approach." The shares held at 1692 p.

Miles Broadbent, a cofounder of BNB, left in 1996 to set up his own firm of headhunters in Mayfair setting off a wave of senior departures.

Commentary, page 23

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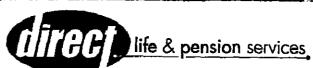
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Swiss Life	£32.30	Commercial Union	00.003		
Black Horse (Lloyds)	£33.40	Swiss Life	£62.60		
Halifax Life	£34.92	Black Horse (Lloyds)	£63.60		
Commercial Union	£36.00	Halifax Life	£68.34		
TSB Life	£42.00	TSB Life	283.00		
We can arrange this for	£21 p.m.	We can arrange this for	£40 p.m		

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Trust us on pensions, say insurers

By MARIANNE CURPHEY AND RICHARD MILES

STAKEHOLDER pensions aimed at the low paid should be so cheap and simple that it will not be necessary to regulate the way they are sold, the Association of British Insurers said yesterday. "We will design a product which is so simple that it is impossible to lose any of your money, said Mark arrangements.

Boleat, the ABI's director-general.

The ABI pro-

To deter higher rate taxpayers, contributions to the plan should be capped at 12,500 and the National Insurance contribution rebate and tax relief should be given at the basic rate of tax, the ABI said. Its response to the Government's pensions review is a stand-alone pension that would exist alongside current occupational pension and personal pension

The ABI proposes four basic prod-

like Standard Life, which proposes pension law be wholly reformed to make the new pensions affordable. He said that if the product were simple and kitemarked then regulation would be unnecessary. He does not

ucts: an index-tracking or equity-based

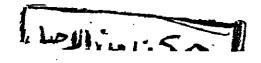
fund, a managed fund, a with-profit

Mr Boléat does not propose changes

to current pension arrangements, un-

fund and a fixed-interest fund.

However, Mick McAteer, senior policy researcher at the Consumers' Association, said the sale of stakeholder pensions should be regulated. He said: If stakeholder pensions are compulsory, then they are likely to be industry-wide, large funds and should come within the scope of the Pensions Act. If they are voluntary there will be an element of choice, and they should be regulated by the Financial Services



Threat of strike casts shadow on Korean recovery

A MILITANT South Korean union yesterday threatened to call a general strike if the Government pushes through laws making it easier for

companies to lay off workers. The move by the half-million strong Korean Confederation of Trade Unions risks undermining South Korea's attempts to restore confidence to its battered financial markets.

The South Korean stock market reacted badly to the news, closing down 2.25 per cent. The won also slipped from 1,558.0 to the dollar to 1.584.0, despite other Asian currencies enjoying strong gains led by a 30 per cent rise in the Indonesian rupiah.

The KCTU said it is considering calling a general stike by the end of the week if the South Korean Parliament pushes through a tough labour reform programme. However, the larger and more moderate Federation of Korean Trade Unions said it would oppose the strike, although it gave warning that it could not stop its regional unions from launching sympathy strikes.

The Government agreed a pact with business and unions - including the KCTU - last Friday to permit businesses to lay off workers without notice and rehire temporary staff. Analysts gave warning that a decision to soften the legislation could threaten the \$60 billion (£35.7 billion) International Monetary Fund rescue

In Indonesia, the rupiah soared from 9.700.00 to 7,400.00 after rumours that the Government is on the verge of introducing a currency board to help to stabilise its exchange rate. Steve Hanke, the US economist who is the leading proponent of currency boards, briefed the Indonesian Government last week on the scheme.

The rise in Indonesia also boosted other Asian currencies to year highs. The Malaysian ringgit climbed 9 per cent to 3.60 to the dollar, while the Thai baht rose 3.5



BP shrugs off influence of oil prices with aid of 'self-help'

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

JOHN BROWNE, chief executive of British Petroleum. yesterday claimed that the oil company's fortunes were no longer tied to the oil price as he revealed a fall in fourth-

The final three months' replacement cost net profit fell from £689 million to £636 million, hit by special factors including operational difficulties at an Alaskan refinery. However. Mr Browne said that the company had achieved a \$550 million (£336 million) boost to the year's results from "self-help" - BP's description of internally generated profit improvements of which \$500 million related to volume gains. BP's full-year replacement

cost net profit was up from 52.6 billion to 52.8 billion and the oil company is increasing the quarterly dividend to 5.75p, making 22p for the year. a 13 per cent gain on 1997. Mr Browne said that BP had raised profits and dividend the environment was per cent to close at 46.10 to moving against the company: year. However, it has revised to depress supply. "On average, oil prices were \$1 its forecast for non-Opec pro-

City analysts were surprised at the share price gloom and remained confident that BP

THE International Energy

Agency is forecasting a large

oversupply of oil in 1998 but

the organisation has admitted

that it consistently overesti-

mated non-Opec oil produc-

tion for the past two years (Carl Mortished writes).

exports, increased Opec pro-

duction and growing non-

supply will exceed demand in

the first two quarters of the

A cure for

bronchitis.

The IEA said that Iraqi

a barrel lower than in 1996.

refining margins were weaker and the pound was strong against the deutschmark." could raise its game despite weak refining margins and oil

per cent, well short of forecasts of 5 per cent. The City keenly awaits BP's

new growth targets, which are expected to be revealed in eight weeks' time. Since the oil company's financial crisis in 1992, it has set profit and debt

500,000 barrels per day.

The organisation's statistics

are highly influential but

critics have noted its failure to

spot the effect of strikes and

technical problems which

have plagued oil companies

over the past year. In a letter

accompanying its monthly re-

port, the IEA said: "We have

been working steadily to im-

prove our techniques, seeking

out those factors which tend

The cut in non-Opec supply

THE TIMES

reduction targets which have production growth of just 2 been handsomely exceeded. but the City is expecting Mr Browne to set more sophisticated efficiency goals, including working capital targets over the next five years.

BP's upstream profits fell in the fourth quarter from £814

Energy agency forecasts worldwide oversupply

> drillers and contractors operating close to full capacity. The IEA is forecasting global oil demand of 75.3 million barrels per day, a slow-down in growth to 23 per cent compared with 2.6 per cent last year and after a surge of 2.7 per cent in the final quarter

upstream environment with

According to the IEA, year end stocks were higher than in any year over the last two decades, except 1994.

\$4 fall in the oil price and a slow production build-up in the North Sea. Mr Browne said the production shortfall was attributable to the loss of 40,000 barrels per day after technical problems at Foinaven. BP is targeting ten new fields in the current year, with production targets of 400,000 bpd by the end of the year. Mr Browne said that BP was

million to £679 milion after a

expecting oil prices to remain near the bottom of a \$15 to \$20 per barrel range this year after several years of above average prices. He said: "We have to expect this reality and I am sure that the UK Government are doing the same as they review North Sea taxes in

advance of the UK Budget.
Refining margins slumped in the fourth quarter to \$1.3 per barrel from \$2.3 last year, causing profits to fall from £265 million in the third quarter to £159 million in the last three months. Chemical profits were marginally up at £110 million in the final quarter.

Tempus, page 24

Clean coal research in danger

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

RESEARCH into cleaning up coal — a programme vaunted to help the troubled industry is in danger of collapsing because state cash is about to run out.

The Government will be warned by MPs next month that there is an urgent need to put up more money for the development of clean-coal technology. Government funding is due to finish next month. The issue will be highlighted in the Trade and Industry Commit-

tee's report into coal. Companies involved in the projects are believed to have complained that without fresh government commitment they cannot justify to shareholders pumping more of their own money into the schemes. Last week John Battle, the

Energy Minister, told the Coal industry Society that £4 million had been spent on cleancoal technology this year by the Government. But he didn't say that a figure for the next financial year had yet to be set. A large clean-coal project between RJB Mining, Nat-ional Power and Texaco has yet to get off the ground because the partners will not move without state support.

Help small businesses says Turner

By Alasdair Murray ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

ADAIR TURNER last night warned the Chancellor that the proposed Corporation Tax reforms could hamper the growth rate of smaller firms and damage the economy.

The director-general of the Confederation of British Industry told a 3i seminar in London that Gordon Brown's decision to abolish advance corporation tax would hit the cashflow of small and medium sized companies.

"It would not be very modern, or sensible, to implement changes in a way which would damage the cashflow and the investment intentions of the very-growing medium sized companies on which the health of the economy increas-

ingly depends," he said.

The Chancellor should increase the threshold where companies are exempt from bringing forward corporation tax payments, he said, adding that he believed the Treasury is receptive to the idea.

The CBI is asking the Government to modernise the tax regime for SMEs, with an R&D tax credit to foster investment and a two-tier capital gains tax to encourage investors to hold shares more than three years.

BUSINESS ROUNDEP

UB shake-up after Australian sale

UNITED BISCUITS is reorganising into two divisions after the sale of its Australian snacks business. UB's worldwide biscuit operations will become a single division, known as McVitie's Group, with a turnover of about £l billion in 1998. It will be chaired by Eric Nicoli, the UB chief executive. The other division will be comprised of UB's UK businesses, excluding McVitie's UK, with a 1998 turnover of about £700 million. Its products range from KP nuts and crisps to Linda McCartney vegetarian foods. Malcolm Little, the current UK chief executive will take the same role in the new grouping.

A spokesman denied the move was a prelude to a demerger but followed the disposal of Smiths Snack Food in Australia last November: "The group has been managed on a regional basis and that is less relevant today." United sold Keebler, its US snack operation, in 1995. UB shares, which have performed poorly since reaching 434p in 1993, rose slightly to 260p from 2592p yesterday.

Commentary, page 23

Boeing pegs provision

BOEING, the US aerospace company, said yesterday it was unlikely to make further provisions against the \$16 billion (£9.5 billion) acquisition of rival McDonnell Douglas. Last month Boeing announced it had to set aside an exceptional provision of \$1.4 billion to cover the costs connected with the takeover. Boeing also said it had overcome production problems that forced it to reorganise its output of 747 and 737 aircraft to cope with a surge in orders.

Pound hurts Domecq

ALLIED DOMECQ, the drinks group, expects the strength of sterling to drag its first-half profits "marginally" below the earnings of the same half last year. Sir Christopher Hogg, the chairman, said Allied's Asian markets were being adversely affected by reduced consumer confidence and by currency weaknesses but the impact "was not material in the context of overall group results". He did not refer to the company's speculated metger with Seagram, Allied's Canadian rival.

Laughton buys Cork

LAUGHTON Rainsfords, the personal care products group. has acquired Thomas Cork for £32.5 million. Thomas Cork sources, distributes and manages the in-store displays of housewares, pet accessories, baby and haircare products, stationery and books. Laughton Rainsfords was subject to a management buyout in January 1997. The enlarged group will have 2,000 employees and proforma turnover and pre-tax profit of £108 million and £10 million respectively in 1998.

Swiss defend merger

THE Swiss Foreign Ministry has defended the merger of UBS and SBC Warburg against attacks from Alfonse D'Amato, the New York senator behind the Nazi gold investigation. The ministry's Second World War taskforce said Mr D'Amato should not interfere in the banks' corporate affairs. He wants to halt the merger until any guilt over Nazi gold had been determined. Banking analysts said US animosity could undermine the merged bank's ability to conduct business in America.

Porvair splits top jobs

PORVAIR, the specialist materials supplier, has split the roles of its chairman and chief executive John Morgan by appointing Ben Stocks, a former director of Carnaud Metal Box, as chief executive. The group reported a pre-tax profit of £6.86 million for the year to end November, up from £4.15 million. Earnings rose from 11p to 18p out of which the full year dividend rises from 5.6p to 6.2p after payment of a 4.1p

Stanford's loss grows

STANFORD ROOK, the drug development company that disappointed with its tuberculosis treatment last year, said that it has promising interim results from a 28-patient lung cancer trial with the treatment. The company said that chemotherapy patients who also received its SRL 172 showed better responses and improved survival. Stanford Rook, which has cash of £5.1 million, was reporting annual losses almost doubled to £1.8 million, from £965,000, after increased research spending.

Australian acquisition

PHOTOBITION Group, the graphics and media services supplier, has made its first foray into the Australian market with a £2.7 million acquisition of Flash Graphics, based in Sydney. Eddie Marchbanks, chairman and chief executive of Photobition, said: "Flash Graphics already has a good client list, but the potential for its products in the 2000 Olympics is significant." In the six months to December 31, 1997, Flash recorded after tax profits of A\$664,415 (£271,000).

Inn Business ahead

INN BUSINESS GROUP, which operates 473 pubs, lifted pre-tax profits to £6.3 million from £2.2 million in the year to November 30. Earnings per share increased 29 per cent to 7.17p. A final dividend of 1.25p makes a total of 1.875p (1.55p) for the year. Sales more than doubled to £32.5 million (£15.1 million). Alan Jackson, executive chairman, said acquisitions would be made on a "colorina kirina, said acquisitions" would be made on a "selective" basis as property prices continued to rise, with expansion focused on the South.

PowderJect green light

SHARES in PowderJect Pharmaceuticals rose 92p to 232p after the company said it had received the US go ahead to test its supersonic drug "gun" with lidocaine, the world's higgest-selling local anaesthetic. The Powderlect device is intended to enable doctors to administer drugs without having to give patients an injection. A small phase I study with lidocame will begin later this month. Shares in Chiroscience. PowderJect's development partner, also rose 2p to 261 2p.

Phibro and Buffett will not face silver price charges

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

PHIBRO, the commodities unit of Salomon Smith Barney, is set to escape prosecu-tion over an alleged manipulation of the silver market. A possible prosecu-tion of Warren Buffett, the billionaire investor, is also to

Lawyers for Kerry Searle, a Canadian uptions trader who lost \$164,000 when silver prices rose 70 per cent over the last six months, said the Phibro suit is likely to be

dropped. Phibro is believed to have been the broker behind the

ounces of silver by Mr Buffett, He has made a paper profit of about \$400 million.

Christopher Lovell. Mr Searle's lawyer, confirmed that Mr Buffett and Berkshire Hathaway, his investment company, were being investigated with Phibro.

Mr Lovell said the investigation and efforts to prosecute will be stopped once informa-tion promised by Phibro has been forwarded. The New York lawyer said: "Phibro has been providing on a wholly voluntary basis, information

purchase of 130 million to plaintiffs which is contrary to the allegations about Phibro contained in the ∞mplaint." Phibro said it was not

revealing any sensitive client. information and it would not pay any of Mr Searle's costs. Phibro and the other previously unamed parties had been accused of conspiring to raise prices by moving silver out of warehouses monitored by Comex division of the New York Manualla Enhanced York Mercantile Exchange and into bullion houses in

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xactly a year ago, the Stock Exchange suspended trad-ing in the shares of Lanica Trust. For a brief spell, investors appeared to believe that youthful Andrew Regan had discovered the secret of alchemy. They drove shares in his Lanica from little more than £1 to £19.50, before the Exchange called a hait. At that level, Lanica was valued at close

Just how illusory that figure was could soon become clear, for there are signs that Lanica's state of suspended animation may be about to end, with a reversal into another quoted company. Then the Lanica value will surely plummet as fast as a theatrical Peter Pan with his wires cut. Mr Regan will feel the bump, since he and his business partner, David Lyons, control a majority of the shares, but a few institutions who should have known better will wince to see the full extent of their misplaced optimism crystallised.

That 31-year-old Regan planned a £1.2 billion break-up bid for the Co-op has now been consigned to the realms of myths and legends. The idea was sound but its execution disastrous. His attack spurred the organisation into a more impressive bout of activity than it had staged for decades yet it was not the Co-op that won the fight but Mr Regan

Lanica heads for bumpy landing

disdain for conventional takeover mores which left most of the City reeling and Hambros'

reputation in shreds. Andrew Regan has kept his head down since the excit-ment of his phantom bid last April. The legal repercussions of his use of confidential information had to be negotiated and still to be concluded is the potentially embarrassing matter of a Serious Fraud Office investigation into one of his earlier deals with

But the company formed to make the Co-op bid was Galileo. not Lanica, theoretically at least an investment trust rather than a corporate raider. That categorisation now seems totally misconceived, since being a passive investor, as investment trusts should be, is hardly Mr Regan's style. Lanica was intended as a deal doer, as evidenced by its attempted joint venture with the Naafi. Regan had hopes of this turning a fast profit but in October he pulled out. With some chutz-pah, he intimated that the deal had been wrecked by the bad publicity being heaped upon Lanica. No



Since then, the Stock Exchange and the company have left shareholders to wonder whether Lanica was all a dream turned nightmare. Suspensions lasting this long are rare: Costain was in limbo for almost exactly a year and Lanica shareholders will find little comfort in the fact that, after being suspended at 46p. Costain shares currently hover around 30p.

Disunited biscuits

Then Colin Short arrived as chairman of United Biscuits, replacing the avuncular Sir Robert Clark, the bening was that chief executive Eric Nicoli might find his job security crumbling. But that was two and a half years ago, and Nicoli is still in place. Which is more than can be said for much

of UB. Yesterday, the company moved closer to total dismemberment by splitting itself into two divisions: much more easily digestible that way. Optimistic investors are hoping that, in a market with an appetite for mergers, major players in the food business will find the divided UB irresistible.

While much of Nicoli's reign seems to have been devoted to pulling UB out of areas where it proved unequal to the vicious competition that characterises the snacks business worldwide, there are a few ta italising smells which might attract a bidder's attention. Linda McCartney's vegetarian range apparently has sufficient devotees to indicate that it may be her thinking on nutrition rather than her family's other activities that are winning the custom. In similar vein, the Go Ahead! range of biscuits and

cakes for calorie counters app ears to be filling a gap where Mr Kipling may not enter for fear of encountering the fat police.

But, as dieters know, the figures speak the truth, and while UB profits weighed in at £162 million in 1992, they have shrunk horribly since then.
Nicoli struggled long to sort
out the problem of Keebler in the

United States, not of his making, admittedly, but many critics felt that a sharper touch would have curtailed the pain. His study of nuclear physics had clearly not equipped him for a world in which free cardboard discs, known as Tazos, could make Walkers a dominant force in the Australian crisp business. Nicoli described the Tazos as "the commercial equivalent of a nuclear attack", and last year admitted that it had him beaten, selling UB's Smiths Snacks and

Crisps business in Australia, having only bought it in 1993. Mr Short, who took over at UB with a reputation for being a tough leader, may have decided that his chief executive has no option but to give in to stronger

Profits lag behind share prices

To news has been good news for share prices. As the main profit-reporting season for big companies builds up, the cheer of recent weeks might prove harder to sustain. Yesterday, British Petroleum, Unilever and Reuters all reported flat sales and stagnant or

BOC offered only disappoint-ment for the last quarter of 1997, with more trade gloom to follow. At BP, optimists could at least claim a profit rise of 7 per cent, at replacement cost excluding rou-tine "exceptional" costs. That is, however, the minimum analysts expect to justify today's share prices. The FTSE 100 share index values the average big company

at 21 times latest earnings. That implies either that earnings will grow at a cracking pace or that we are returning to the cheap

money era of 50 years ago.

The latest inflation figures have reassured the exchanges that even the Bank of England committee is unlikely to put base rates up further, but a short-term real rate of interest of 43 per cent is hardly giving the stuff away. Flat 1997 profits may be writ-

ten off as a one-off slip, caused mainly by the pound becoming stronger. Barclays and NatWest apart, the banking and finance sector should record much juicier returns. But 1998 promises to be just as disappointingly exceptional Watch out for warnings about the impact of the Asian crisis, slower UK growth and cheap imports to start with.

Head lost

DAVID NORMAN'S long-over-due departure from BNB Refalling historic profits for 1997. sources does not resolve the crucial problem for shareholders in a company that should never have gone public. The partners in the head-hunting division (which included Norman) keep half the proceeds of their efforts before outsiders get a look in. As a recruitment expert. Norman believed that was the only way to win the top staff. Even on those terms, he failed to keep them.

Unilever poised for clearout of poor performers

By Fraser Nelson

NIALL FTIZGERALD, chairman of Unilever, is to sell or close down businesses generating £2 billion of group sales unless they show a marked recovery in profits within the next 12 months.

Elizabeth Arden, the perfume concern bought nine years ago for 5885 million, is r expected to be one of the first casualties of Mr FitzGerald's restructuring programme if Bob Phillips, its manager, fails to achieve a turnaround.

Other disposals are expected to come from a range of low-profile overseas companies as the group moves towards its target areas of tea. laundry powder and skincare

Mr FitzGerald said that a range of Unilever subsidiaries. which generate 6.5 per cent of to identify them. He added:

We have put others on notice that if they do not perform to standards, then they will go. This is a three-year pro-gramme started in 1996. Anything that falls outside our priority categories is suspect." His comments came as the

company met City expecta-tions by reporting 1997 profits of £3,23 billion before tax and the £2.97 billion profit from selling its chemicals division.

ed the star performance, with profits up by 30 per cent. Unilever now sells more margarine in Russia than in France after sales of Rama, the ouivalent of Flora, rose to 100.000 tonnes a year.

Mr FitzGerald said that the company has so far emerged last warning - but he declined moil in the Far East, where it

generates 13 per cent of group

He said: "I don't think the problem is as serious as many people say. It is a necessary correction of unbalanced economic growth. We will keep focused on the essentials and run our business tightly.

"We see this, if anything, as an opportunity in the medium term. It may be that some businesses that we have found attractive may become available."

At the start of 1997, a fifth of Unilever's Eastern and Central Europe businesses providthe entire group was marked in danger of being closed or sold, Half of the "hit-list" businesses have since gone. A few were saved after achieving a financial recovery.

Overall, earnings per share doubled to 44.5p. The total dividend rises to 8.42p (8.0lp) with a final 5.62p due on May 22.

Tempus, page 24

Intrum Justitia goes private in £126m deal

By RICHARD MILES

INTRUM JUSTITIA, the debt collection agency, has been sold for £126 million to Bo Goranson, its chairman, and a team of Swedish ven-

Mr Goranson and Industri Kapital have agreed to pay

63 per cent premium to the 73½p closing share price on November 7 when the company disclosed it was in preliminary takeover talks. Industri Kapital will take a 52 per cent stake in a new

holding company, dubbed Collector, while Mr Goranson will hold 48 per cent through his company Synergy Mr

34 per cent of Intrum Justitia. The deal has been approved by the four shareholders who control 83.5 per cent of the company: Mr Goranson, United News & Media, Fidelity and PDFM. Intrum Justitia, the largest debt collection

agency in Europe, said it

expected to report pre-tax

For Small

Businesses-an

smaller price.

million, significantly below market expectations. At the half-year, it reported a 33 per cent decline in pre-tax profits

to £5.5 million. Launched in 1990 at 81p, Intrum shares peaked within a few years at 129p before falling back to the 75p mark for the rest of the decade. Management blamed the poor share liquidity and difficult markets. Frederick Chiswell. an independent director, said analysts had never liked Intrum being registered in the Dutch Antilles. The Industri Kapital deal will take the company into private ownership. City Diary, page 25

Ionica may have to renegotiate £300m credit line

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

IONICA, the troubled wireless telephony company, yesterday admitted that it may have to renegoriate a £300 million credit facility before it can draw down financing for network development next year. The company, which is be-hard schedule in developing

its network because of soft-

ware delays and capacity constraints, said that it believed that the operating covenants of the credit facility will have to be renegoriated as a result. It said: "The company will Continue to work with its advisery, the arranging banks and other potential providers

of finance to put in place funding for 1900 and beyond." Ionica said that it had opened talks with banks on finance for 1900, but was required to state that "there can be no assurance . . . that such funding will be available to the company on acceptable

Reporting quarterly finan-cial results vesterday, Ionica



Playford: gave up control

said that retained losses for the three months to December 31 had reached £34.8 million. Losses for the nine months to December 31 were \$112 million. lenica said it is optimistic about receiving the necessary funding. lonica shares, which were 421p last July, fell 5p to 7812p vesterday. Nigel Playford, founder of lonica, last month gave up executive control of it after the share price plunged. He became deputy chairman to concentrate on strategy.

Amstrad hopes for TV order

BY JASON NISSÉ

AMSTRAD is pinning its hopes on winning a big follow-up order from British Interactive Broadcasting (BIB), the digital television venture, after securing a deal to supply a quarter of its initial order of set-top boxes.

The group, which changed its name from Betacom after Alan Sugar took over as chairman last year, said vesterday that it had a good relationship with BSkyB, the satellite TV company that is a partner in BIB and is 40 per cent owned News International, owner of The Times.

Mr Sugar has reorganised the group since taking control, moving its headquarters and

setting up a research and development operation. All this brought an £888,000 exceptional charge, plunging Amstrad into a \$379,000 pretax loss in the half year to De-cember 31, from a £1.26 million profit last time. The loss per share was 1.14p. against 1.62p earnings. An unchanged 0.2p dividend is due on February 20. The shares fell 12p to 302p.

Tempus, page 24

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Zetters in line for reverse bid by mystery company

BY CHRIS AYRES

A PRIVATE company look-ing for a reverse takeover last night emerged as the leading bidder for Zetters, the pools.

and bingo group. Last month Zetters said it had received a bid from a private investor. Two other rival bidders have now emerged, one a private com-

party in search of a stock market listing. Paul Zetter, chairman of Zetters, said: "I like the people and the management struc-ture would fit well." They had roughly agreed on terms but any possible deal would not

come until at least May. Mr Zetter is expected to stay with the company in a part-time

Zetters yesterday reported an 80 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the nine months to December 31 from £S56,000 to £1.5 million. Turnover rose by 14 per cent from £11.6 million to £13.3 million.

The company said that sales at its pools division had continued to fall - in spite of operating one of the country's only successful Internet gam-bling sites — although profits had stabilized. A cost-cutting

programme is still under way. However, the Zetters bingo division enjoyed a leap in profits and sales. "In some ways, the success we've made of the bingo and the turning around of the pools business has made us a victim," said Mr Zetter. "A deal I would

have accepted a year ago I would not accept now." Shares in Zetters fell 2p to 1342p, after a high of 1562p when bid talks were announced. Before the talks the shares traded at only 91p after the company was affected by the National Lottery.

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer

Cookson surges as late sale cuts FTSE lead

ing the squeeze again in takeover favourite Cookson as stock shortages saw the price

surge 28p to 217p.

By the close of business almost 4.5 million shares had changed hands as the group's stock market price tag grew £192 million to £1.49 billion. It stretches the two-day rise to 3-lp but, as brokers point out, the shares have dropped from a peak of 2642p last year, leaving the industrial materials specialist vulnerable to an unwanted takeover

Two names in the frame yesterday were both American Allied Signal and Bendix. A late sale by one big institution created a stir during the last few minutes of trading, cutting the lead of the FTSE 100 index by more than half. Up almost 30 points just a few minutes before the end

of official trading, the index closed 12.4 up at 5,613.3. But brokers appeared unperturbed. They were keeping a close eye on Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average surged more than 100 points during the first few hours of business.

Earlier in the day, investors had been cheered by the drop in the inflation numbers which clearly eased much of the pressure for another rise in base rates.

Stock shortages were also responsible for another flurry of activity in Zeneca where the price touched £25.85 before ending 69p higher at £25.25.

Brokers gave a thumbsdown to the first-quarter results from BOC Group and the shares were left nursing a fall of 66p at 905p. Instead investors were switching into ICI, up 30p at £10.13, on the back of advice from the likes of Peter Hitchens at Williams de Broe, the broker.

Disappointment was also expressed about BP's full-year numbers with particular attention paid to the low level of refining profits. Brokers say it bodes badly for Shell, ¹2p lighter at 424p, ahead of figures tomorrow. BP lost 21p

Pearson perked up with a rise of 19½p at 839½p as Henderson Crosthwaite and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson

There was a rush of nervous sellers in Biocompatibles, down 35p at 180p. The resigna tion last week of Alistair Taylor as chief executive con-



Anita Roddick may take Body Shop, down 74p, private

tinues to cast a shadow over

Meanwhile, Shield Diagnostics advanced 2½p to 710p after giving a series of presentations in Paris for fund managers. Hopes are growing that the group's process, Activated Factor 12, for detecting heart diseases early on will provide a big boost to earnings

Body Shop hit a low, down

72p at 1152p as the City continued to ponder the depar-ture this week of Steen Kanter. chief executive of the group's US subsidiary. This combined with the group's recent profits warning has led brokers to suggest that Anita Roddick may choose to take the company private again.

The latest survey from the British Retail Consortium was good news for Britain's shop-

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THE weather forecasters may be able to tell the insurance companies when stormy weather may be on the way, but that provides cold comfort when the subsequent claims start to pour in.

Royal & SunAlliance. down 8p at 677p, unsettied the market on Monday with news of storm losses totalling £52 million. But according to only get worse. David Hudson, at Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, underlines the warning: What is going on in the insurance market is not very nice". Goldman Sachs and HSBC James Capel have begun downgrading their profit numbers ahead of the imminent dividend

reporting season. Mr Hudson added: "The real crunch to profits will come in the current year. There are some big cuts coming. Some forecasts are £100 million too high."

The insurers have in the up by bid talk and weight of money and now look over valued. Commercial Union was another faller. losing 7p at £10.16.

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

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in January was the biggest increase since August 1996 and indicated that consumers had waited until the new year sales before taking the plunge. The survey showed the department stores scoring well with gains for Bentalls, up 12p at 139 p, and recently demerged Debenhams, 112p to 4122p. Kinglisher breached the £10 level with a jump of 21p at £10.16 after Morgan Stanley. the US securities house, set a target price for the shares of Analyst Julie Ramshaw at

Morgan Stanley has raised recommendation for House of Fraser, 2p dearer at 1762p. from "underperform" to "neutral" and lifted her target price for Harvey Nichols, lp firmer at 2572p, to 295p. Dixons was another firm market, adding 30p at 539½ p with the help of a "buy" recommendation from Société Générale Securities. The broker is urging clients to switch into Dixons and Arcadia, up Ilp at 460p, from Storehouse, unchanged at 2290.

The mobile-phone operators appeared unperturbed by reports that the European Commission was investigating the high costs of calls throughout Europe. Orange rose 152p to 3352p with City speculators looking to British Aerospace to sell its remaing 21 per cent stake. There were also gains for Vodafone, 12p to 514p, C&W Communications, 42p to 315p and Securicor, 31p to

364p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: the clearest evidence yet that the British economy has begun to slow down was provided by the latest inflation numbers. As a result, the pressure for another rate rise appears to be lading and that provided a boost to the bond market where prices rose by almost £1 at the longer end.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt closed E3, higher at £123716 in heavy turnover that saw 81,000 contracts completed.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 finished £1932 better at £1242332, while at the shorter end Treasury 74 per cent 2007 put £1316 at £109132.

NEW YORK: Despite wor-

in Asia and Europe, the damage to shares failed to materialise. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 8,292.87. 112.35 points to

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Hong Kong- Hang Seng
Amsterdam: 970.12 (-3.85)
Sydney: AO 2668.0 (- 17.3)
Frankfurt DAX 4523.75 (-39.80)
Singapore: 1602-97 (+59-25)
Brussels: General
Paris: 3235.76 (+14.82)
Zurich: SKA Gen 1359.60 (+6.80)
London: FT 30
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ICI 1013p (+30p)
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SmithKline	
P&O	
Peptide Thera 30	
Wolseley	490p (+19p)
FALLS:	
Biocomps Intl	180p (-35p)
BOC	

295'sp (-14p) 471p (-17p) 805p (-24p) 793p (-21p) Closing Prices Page 26

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Beware gas going flat

NOT for the first time since Danny Rosenkranz took over as chief executive, BOC Group has badly disappointed with its quarterly results. Yesterday's upset, which

knocked nearly 7 per cent off the share price. looks particularly unnecessary. This was, after all, the third time BOC had spoken to the market in the last month, and neither the currency issue nor the problems in Asia were exactly a surprise.

Much of the profits shortfall can be pinned on Ohmeda, the healthcare business that has just been sold for £640 million. BOC's suggestion last July that profits from anaes-thetic gases had stabilised has turned out to be wholly ill founded. Ohmeda's contribution fell from £13 million to £5.3 million.

The group would like investors to focus on vacuum pumps and

cent and operating profits up 7 per cent — as long as you ignore the hit from the strong pound. All three divisions have their problems, but the gases and vacuum businesses are particularly vulnerable to an Asian slowdown. Some analysts believe BOC has been slow to recognise the extent of the threat. In gases, BOC talks about a loss of new opportunities but it also faces the risk of bankruptcies among its industrial customers. Edwards, the vacuum business, is heavily reliant on the Asia semiconductor industry

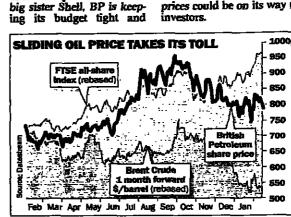
and orders have already fallen sharply.

BOC is hoping for a broadly flat year in 1998 but that may prove too optimistic. The group is in danger of losing its reputation as a safety-first investment. Investors should seek better opportunities elsewhere.

rvest-

perated iat BP's rate is part by year's was 90 higher pany is e on its up production this year with no less than ten new fields scheduled to come on stream. This industry is widely acknowledged to be no leeway and equipment is shows no sign of a spending scarce and becoming more expensive by the day.

BP may regret not increas-ing its capital budget when Yet BP is at less risk than asset prices are low. But after independent explorers who have fewer resources to fall having burnt its fingers once this company is not about to abandon financial conservaback on. In the short term. BP investors should expect tism. Some of the cash flow some good news in the form of share buybacks. Unlike its prices could be on its way to



Unilever

UNILEVER has had a terrific run over the past two years. Its shares have risen by almost 80 per cent as it has offloaded billions of pounds of sales in businesses stretching from flavourings and fragrances to Japanese hair salons. To continue this rate of progress. Unilever must now demonstrate that it can invest its £3.2 billion cash pile as astutely as it accumulated

Niall FitzGerald, chairman of the food and toiletries group, retains his enthusiasm for the emerging mar-kets of Asia, despite the region's economic difficul-

These troubles will almost certainly throw up some bargain acquisitions, but Unilever will proceed cautiously. In addition to the megamarkets of India and China, the group is keen to its position in Eastern Europe, where it is

already growing strongly.

improved in North America. the group's performance there still disappoints. Elizabeth Arden, the cosmetics operation, must be one of the businesses that is on notice to improve its performance. The quality of Unilever's US food businesses also remains questionable. These problems have been obscured by the strength of the Calvin Klein cosmetics business but

that is now slowing. Still, with underlying vol-ume growth of 3 per cent and group margins improved by almost 1 per cent, Unilever must remain a firm hold.

Amstrad

READERS of the style supplements will have noticed that nostalgia for the 1970s has recently been replaced by fond recollections of the 1980s. The City is taking part in this trip along memory lane with the re-emergence of the old Amstrad, the cheap and cheerful consumer elec-

Although margins have tronics company. The process that took the old Amstrad into computing, and then retreat in a flurry of legal actions, buy a PC maker, demerge the PC maker. buy a mobile phonemaker, sell the mobile phonemaker, hive off all its consumer electronics side into Betacom, appoint Alan Sugar chairman and eventually change Betacom's name to Amstrad. has been long and painful.

Depending on where investors joined this roller coaster ride, they either made a bundle or lost their shirts. Should they rejoin the ride or bale out now? With increased turnover and falling operating profits, the interim results gave few clues yester-day but ultimately it depends on whether you think digital TV will take off. A thriving digital TV market would mean lots of orders for Amstrad's set top boxes and make the shares a bargain.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

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Oftel chief predicts telecoms and software mergers

By CHRIS AYRES

DON CRUICKSHANK, the telecoms regulator, has predicted a wave of megamergers between software developers and telecoms companies, such as the rumoured takeover of British Telecom by

ESDAY FEBRUARY

Mr Cruickshank, who is to stand down as Director-General of the Office of Tele-communications (Oftel) in April, told a meeting of industry representatives at Kings College London: "I think such mergers are almost inevitable. I wouldn't be suprised if, over the next few years, some of the major players in the UK were to link with software providers."

There is widespread fear in the industry that telephone networks could be bought out by so-called "content providers" — companies that provide Internet information services, such as Microsoft. Such alliances will become more logical as television, radio and

Internet services merge over coming years.

Shares in British Telecom surged last month when rumours swept the City that the company was in takeover talks with Microsoft, headed by Bill Gates. However, Mr Gates later said that he was not interested in moving into the telecoms buiness.

Mr Cruickshank, when asked whether the European Union would have the power to block such a deal, said: That's why this dehate is crucial. The control of information and entertainment is capable of being dictated by companies which are not, historically, caught by telecoms resulation

"A significant part of Oftel's resources should be deployed to getting this right. It is not adequate and not acting in consumers' interests at the moment. The new regulatory framework is likely to come

from Brussels. Nevertheless, it is important that the UK gets on with its own debate. There are great opportunities if we get the regulation right."

get the regulation right."

Mr Cruickshank was criticised at the meeting for failing to bring about a reduction in the price of calls on mobile phones. He replied: "That is a point of view with which I have great sympathy — one disappointment of my five years at Offel is the way that competition has not developed."

His comments came as the European Commission launched an investigation into the cost of mobile phone calls in Britain and the rest of the EU. All mobile network operators in the 15 member countries have been asked to submit details of their tariffs to the Commission.

The Commission said: "If we find that certain charges are not directly cost-related, then we will intervene."

Nationwide sights set on the Internet

NATIONWIDE Building Society plans to become an Internet services provider. The Nationwide says the new service is to be launched in the summer and will give secure electronic access to bank accounts, as well as the usual Internet services.

Brian Davis, chief executive of the society, will create the service with BT, which will provide much of the technology. Users will have online banking, Web and newsgroup access, five e-mail addresses per household, Web space and a 24-hour helptine. Users will need to have a Nationwide account to get connected.

The society said: "A growing number of people will want to use their personal computers for banking, and ultimately their television sets."



In the picture: Brian Davis will create the Nationwide's new service with BT

Peptide joins research venture

PEPTIDE THERAPEUTICS, the pharmaceutical group, has entered a research collaboration with the Medical Research Council at St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry.

The company and the MRC

are to work towards the development of novel antibacterial compounds based on the inhibition of bacterial enzymes known as processes. The shares rose 9p to 296 p.

Peptide and the MRC will jointly fund the three-year project under the link award

scheme and Peptide has negoniared an exclusive licence to all the intellectual property generated from the project. Potential targets include enzymes generated by bacteria involved in periodontal dis-

ease, cystic fibrosis and the

emerging antibiotic resistant

forms of staphylococcus. MRC scientists will identify target proteases from bacteria involved in such diseases. Peptide will then apply its proprietary rapid technology to design inhibitors to these enzymes and investigate their therapeutic application.

Silverdale colliery set to close

MORE than 300 miners are poised to lose their jobs with the closure of a colliery this year. Directors at Midlands Mining say that operations are likely to cease at Silverdale Mine in Newcastle-under-Lyme. Staffordshire. in nine months' time.

Up to 337 workers could be made redundant, although the company hopes to relocate some to a colliery in Mansfield. Nottinghamshire.

The company said that the mine had geological problems that had wiped out quality coal reserves. Efforts would continue to find a solution but directors had taken the "preliminary view" to close the pit in September.

The company added: "It is likely that over the coming months... there will be a gradual reduction in the workforce up to the cessation of enal production late in 1998."

The mine is owned by the Coal Authority and Midlands Mining has been asked to advertise it to seek another purchaser.

Task force draws up PFI project priority list

By ADAM JONES

THE "task force" responsible for sorting out the private finance initiative (PFI) has drawn up a priority list of 50 projects, with a capital cost estimated at £8 billion, that it wants to encourage.

The PFI was designed by the last Government as a way of attracting private money to public projects, but critics said it was complex and expensive.

Under Tony Blair, efforts have been focused on pushing forward more pressing pro-

industry was appointed by the Treasury to assist.

The 50 projects on its priority list have some way to go before a contract could be awarded. They are deemed important because of their size, high profile, ability to be

iects. A task force drawn from

replicated or their groundbreaking nature.

They include the Channel Turnel rail link and proposals to build and refurbish schools in Glasgow and Stoke using a single contractor in each case.

They also include the £200 million merger of two sites at GCHQ, the £180 million refurbishment of the main Ministry of Defence building. It hospital projects, and wider private sector involvement with London Underground. Geoffrey Robinson, Paymaster General, said an announcement on London Underground should be made in the next couple of weeks.



Robinson: announcem

Chieftain offers itself for sale

Chieftain, the building materials group, put itself up for sale yesterday and said it was approaching a number of interested parties. The shares rose 12½p to 117½p valuing the company at £10.1 million. Chieftain said it has experienced strong growth over the last two years but believes its

full potential can best be realised by a larger partner

bringing in extra resources.

Care homes

Nursing Home Properties has acquired 17 nursing homes for £33 million from five different operators. Richard Ellert, chief executive, said: "The demand for sale and leaseback of care homes continues to increase and with 5,942 beds and 104 care homes in its ownership, NHP's prospects for growth remain excellent." The shares were unchanged at 134½p.

Intelligent choice

Shares in Intelligent Environments, the private Internet company, rose from 24½p to 34p yesterday after the group revealed that it had been chosen by BT to work with its Intranet Complete Service. In a trading statement the company reckoned it lost £1 million in the second half—against £2.1 million of losses in the first half.

Building starts

Bilton, the property group, is starting construction on a £6.1 million pre-let retail motor park development on the company's seven-acre irechold site at Portsmouth

Business Park. The development, which will produce a combined initial rent of £800,000 a year, is to be completed in November.

Dealers deal

Pendragon, the motor dealer, has bought two BMW dealerships from HMG Holdings for £7.6 million. The sites are and have net assets of £5.6 million. They earned pre-tax profits of £1.4 million in the year to December 31.

French costs rise over 35-hour week

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRENCH businesses face a sharp rise in costs under the country's new law to cut the working week to 35 hours with an loss of pay.

British firms with interests in France, such as Marks & Spencer. GEC, and British Aerospace, will be among those affected. Most companies must comply by the year 2000, although those with fewer than 20 staff have until

The French Government says the law could create up to 540,000 jobs as firms take on new staff to compensate for shorter bours.

shorter hours.

But the employers' federation, the Confédération Nationale du Patronat Français, says the law will add to the 12.4 per cent unemployment rate by undermining

ment rate by undermining productivity.

The CNPS says the measure will increase costs by up to 11.4

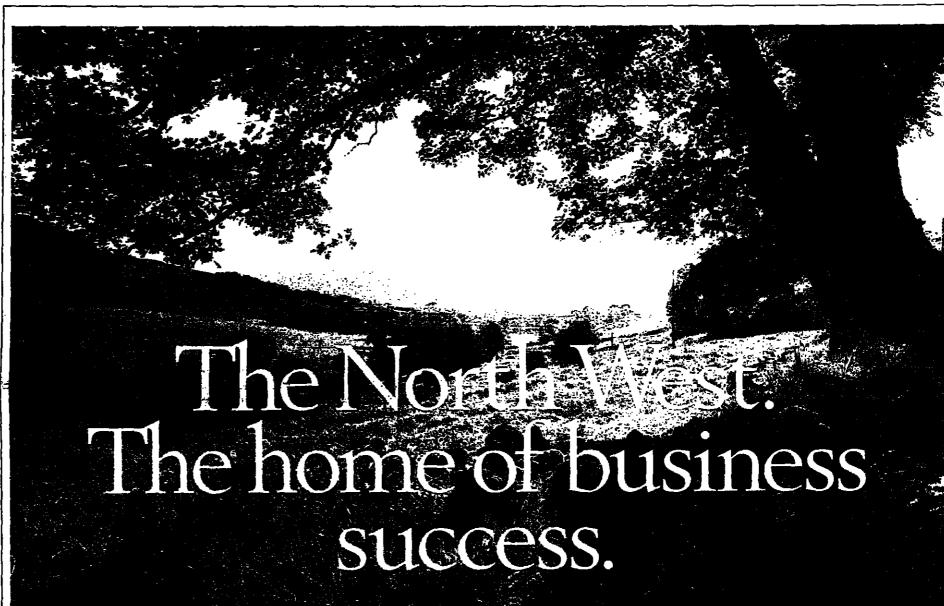
per cent at a time when other countries want to reduce the burden on business. Critics point out the French already work less than employees in Germany, the US, Japan, or

Britain.

The Government hopes to overcome any opposition by offering business leaders up to Fri3.000 (£1,300) a year for every job created under the

Aware that its plan has aroused widespread scepticism in the international business community, the economy ministry stresses the need for a negotiated reduction in working time, and say the law will eventually lead to greater "suppleness" (the word "flexibility" is taboo) across a notoriously rigid jobs market.

But opponents say the gulf between employers and unions is such that negotiations are certain to flounder.



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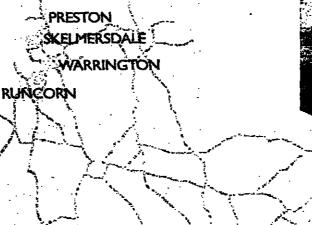
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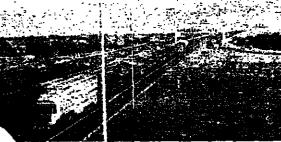
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Visions of domestic bliss

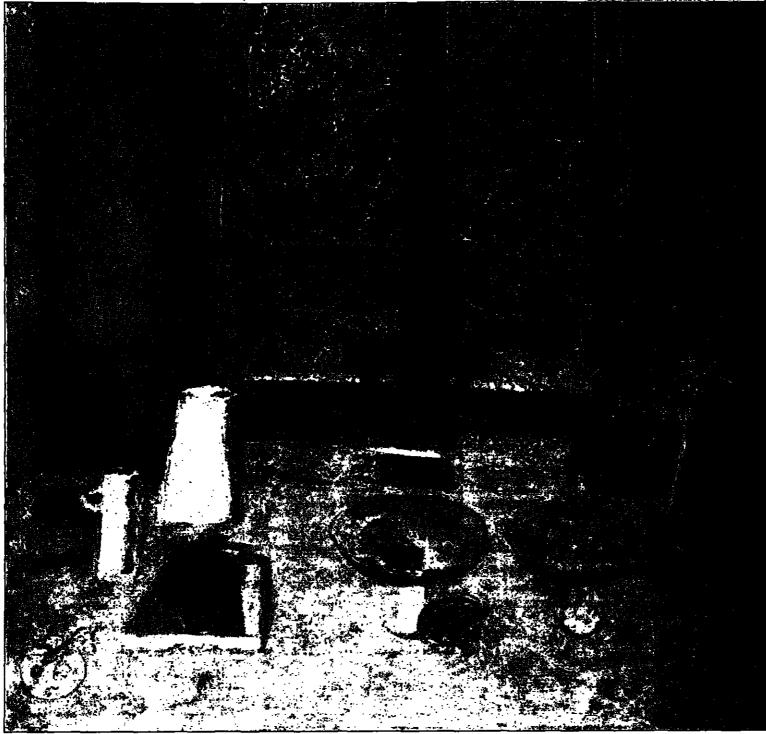
Richard Cork revels in the luscious rural scenes on show in the Tate's superb Bonnard exhibition

cfying the trauma of two world wars. Pierre Bonnard refused to be deflected from his own sundappled Mediterranean idyll. in 1916, at the height of the Somme offensive, he stub-bornly embarked on a large canvas called The Earthly Paradise. Its two naked figures seem overcome by wonder as they gaze at the burgeoning fertility of the countryside. They may repre-sent Adam and Eve before the Fall, and the approaching sunset presages darkness. But Bonnard savours the richness of a landscape where a female nude reclines beside a peacock and a monkey in a flowerfilled Eden.
As the Tate Gallery's capti-

vating exhibition proves, Bon-nard never lost sight of this electable vision. He explored it throughout his long career, concentrating mostly on his domestic surroundings. The "earthly paradise" was usually to be found, not in an outdoor panorama, but in his own house. Windows provide views of seductive locales beyond. In Large Dining Room Overlooking the Garden a shadowy figure is not allowed to obstruct the expanse of magical blue sky pulsating beyond the glass. But Bonnard prefers to linger at the dining table, among the fruit and crockery laid out so enticingly on the cloth.

Once he had bought Le Bosquet, the hillside villa above Cannes where he remained until his death in 1947. .ne attachment to an enclosed world grew stronger still. Most of the space in one magisterial painting is devoted to a plain white room, apart from a slice of palm-bedecked, gaudy vegetation glimpsed beyond the balcony. The distant Côte d'Azur looks so intoxicating that it would be tempting to see Bonnard as a man forever trapped, yearning to escape. But the truth is that he was nourished by the solitude in Le Bosquet, and never tired of revealing how its interiors were transformed by the allpervasive light.

The central drama of the Tate's survey, triumphantly organised by Sarah Whitfield. lies in Bonnard's gradual discovery of the sun's awesome intensity. The first room is ubdued, staying close to dimly illuminated family dining rituals. The young Bonnard rejoices in flat, exuberantly decorative surfaces. He was



Large Dining Room Overlooking the Garden: Bonnard was nourished by the solitude inside his house, and fascinated by the changing light

Nabis, a group of adventurous painters who saw themselves as "prophets" of a new art rooted in daily life. The Croquet Game, his most ambitious painting from this early period, ventures into the garden. But dusk approaches, making ligures and foliage merge in a crepuscular haze.

In the second room, though, Bonnard begins to relish the true potency of light. He tackles larger canvases and becomes brazenly erotic. In the unbridled Indolence a young woman sprawls invitingly on a mattress. Although the near side of her slender body is enveloped in shadow, the other half is invaded by a radiant warmth. It blazes from the creased sheets beyond, as if they had been set on fire by her animal heat.

The model for Indolence was Marthe, whom Bonnard

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CHANGING TIMES

identified in the 1890s with the had met in a Parisian flowershop. She became his lifelong companion, and her unselfconscious presence ensured that his finest pictures invariably celebrate the female nude. A revelatory moment occurs in 1908, when he painted Marthe in a bathroom. Naked apart from a pair of slippers, she seems arrested in the act of turning towards a es in, turning the gossamer curtain into an excitable mass of undulating brushmarks. Marthe seems to reel back from its impact. But there is a sexual frisson in this encounter, and her glowing flesh emanates wellbeing.

> above all with this sense of boundless pleasure. And for another decade, his pictures did indeed celebrate rural France as a land of irresistible delight. By 1920, though, a more ominous mood is asserted. In a wildly handled selfportrait, Bonnard depicts himself as a bearded faun, hungry and furtive. He had recently met Renée Monchaty, his model and then his lover. In a strange, overheated paint-ing of 1923 her fiery-cheeked face is equated with the peach-

Bonnard's art is associated

es smouldering in a nearby dish. Marthe is included only as an incidental head, half sliced-off by the canvas edge. The following year Renée committed suicide in a Paris hotel, leaving Marthe once

more at the centre of the household. But Bonnard was 6 Above all, Bonnard's art is about

boundless

pleasure 9

profoundly distressed by the tragedy, and his subsequent paintings of Marthe became more perturbing. Never ro-bust, she suffered from a persistent tubercular condition and grew increasingly

antisocial with age.
In a 1925 painting she is stretched out in the bath like a corpse. Only the lower half of her body is shown, lying under the water. Bonnard's continuing obsession with the canvas as a flat surface leads

him to distort perspective, tipping the bath up at such a steep angle that woman and water might even slide out. The artist hovers over her, half sinister and half protective.

As she grew old, Marthe became utterly preoccupied with hygiene. Bonnard may well have felt frustrated by her confinement to the bathroom, and in another 1925 painting he shows Marthe lodged in a bath as restricting as a sarcophagus. But he was devoted to her as well. They married that year, in a strange ceremony attended only by their concierge and her husband. From then on, Marthe and her naked ablutions furnished him with his most rewarding, inexhaustible subject.

The bathroom is transformed into a place of shimmering splendour, and the eternally lissom Marthe, often wearing high-heeled shoes, presides over this chamber like a goddess. But her sculptural presence is perpetually threatened by the sheer lumi-nosity of her surroundings. Time and again, Marthe appears on the point of melting into the brilliantly hued patchwork built up by Bonnard's beguiling brushmarks.

The work he produced during the 1930s distinguishes him, more than ever before, as a supreme modern colourist. There is something rapturous about these liquid visions of his ailing wife immured in her temple of cleanliness.

Bonnard himself, according to his late self-portraits, was a gaunt and troubled figure with dark, seemingly sightless eyes. The most melancholy were executed after Marthe's death, an event that grimly fulfilled all his forebodings about the dissolution of her flesh. But one painting precocupied him in his last years. Hanging in the final room here, it contains an uncannily lithe Marthe still floating in

Accompanied on the tiled floor by a sentinel-like dog, she appears suspended in a room even more incandescent than before. Bonnard knew, as he reworked the burnished mirage, that Marthe had failed to withstand the assault of time. But in this painting, more than any other, she achieves immortality through the redemptive power of art.

● Bonnard is at the Tate (0171-887 8000), sponsored by Ernst & Young, until May 17

tioning 350 young artists and whittling them down to 56. Sweden supplied the largest contingent of 27 competing for the principal roles this week.

Sitting in that hall in Stock-

AROUND THE GALLERIES

FOR Engène Leroy every canvas represents a fight. It is a long drawn-out tussle with paint and palette, only resolved after several years of work. But the end results seem startlingly spontaneous. From the thick, chaotic surfaces of Leroy's canvases, from the wild streaks of colour and dense impasto swirls, shadowy faces and figures emerge before melting back as mysteriously as they have come.

These are the sensuous. lyrical paintings of a Frenchman who for 60 years has conducted a tempestuous love affair with

Boukamel Contemporary Art, 9 Cork Street, London WI (0171-734 6444), until March 21

■ WITH Francis Bacon's portraits currently on show at the Hayward it makes a neatly timed sidestep to visit the retrospective exhibition of the work of Isobel Lambert - probably better known as Isobel Rawsthorne, Bacon's erstwhile friend and subject, who served also in her time as a model for artists such as Picasso, Derain, Giacometti and Epstein.

As a designer for the Royal Ballet she was on hand to catch the dramatic leaps and twirls of Margot Fonteyn and Rudolf Nure-yev in bold, bright sketches. Though her costume designs are louche and luminous, she was clearly more interested in the dancers'. bodies than in what they

In the end, however, Lambert's life is probably more interesting than her

October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1 (0171-242 7367), until

■ IF YOU are as obsessed with Marc Quinn's rotund body and its oozing fluids as he is, then this is the one show you should visit this week. It is the first comprehensive sculpture display of the man who found fame with Self, a cast of his head filled with his own blood and then frozen for posterity and for Charles Saatchi,

But this show is as much about time passing as it is about permanence. Heads of mirrored glass melt like mercury into wonderful slippery shapes. Latex body

moulds drip and dissolve. And the centrepiece a beautiful cast of Quinn in ice, slowly evaporates in its sealed container, entering the atmosphere to be breathed in by its aud-

South London Gallery, 65 Peckham Road, London SE5 (0171-703 6120). until March 8

■ IN 1935 Grace Pailthorpe, a surgeon with an artistic bent, met Reuben Mednikoff, a poetically inclined painter, and together they embarked on a project which was to be applauded by André Breton for the role it played in British Surrealism. Using art "as a shortcut to the unconscious". their somewhat over-ambitious aim was "the complete



Mednikoff's Barn Dance from 1935

This show is the logbook of a fantastical journey into the realms of the liberated imagination and automatic art. Octopus-armed menageries breed and merge, mutants boggle alarming eyes. still lives start into sudden animation, abstract shapes sprout teeth and horns. The influences of more famous Surrealists - principally Miro, Dali - are clearly discernible, as well as the symbolism of Odilon Re-

But the odd, ungraspable intensity of this show is as exciting as its childish vigour. Pailthorpe and Mednikoff quarrelled with the other British Surrealists and in 1940 set sail for America and obscurity. This exhibition now brings an almost forgotten corner of British art back into

Sluice Gates of the Mind, Leeds City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 (0113-247 8248), until March 8

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

MUSIC: Rodney Milnes on one Brussels directive that will pay dividends

omething rather extraordinary is happening in Baden-Baden on Saturday, the inaugural event in the brand new Festival Theatre built on to the old railway station. Not our own Royal Opera, nor the Kirov who follow later in the year, but a televised concert by successful young finalists after months of audition for European Union Opera. Today sees the final choices from 27 hopefuls, and on Saturday they go before the cameras. The real work starts in August. EUO came into being on the

coat-tails of the European Union Youth Orchestra, that 20-year-old success story masterminded by Joy and Lionel Bryer, and whose current music director is Bernard Haitink. The opera wing was decreed by Euro-initiative C167/462, and something called DG10 in Brussels provided initial funding. But Europhobes need not shudder: Brussels provides only 20 per cent of the first year's budget of El.5 million. The rest is being raised privately, with significant help from the Internationale Jugendstiftung of Baden-Baden.

The organisation is run on a shoestring, with a permanent staff of just three in the EUYO offices in London. But the joint bosses, Brian Dickie and Felicity Jackson, are a formidable pair: he a former general director of Glyndebourne, Wexford and the Canadian Opera Company, she one of the most capable musical administrators in the business, responsible for countless

Curtain up on Euro-opera



Bullish: Felicity Jackson and Brian Dickie of the EUO

ed by Yan-Pascal Tortelier in

the old Baden theatre for

which Berlioz composed it;

plus masterclasses in song

from Régine Crespin, Christa Ludwig and Elisabeth Söder-

ström. And there are 25 techni-

cal traineeships for stage

management, lighting, admin-

Last year Dickie and Jack-

son spent six weeks trawling through 24 cities in the 15

countries of the Union, audi-

istration, etc.

Aornid artists, brodrammes ou both sides of the Atlantic, member of the Met auditions

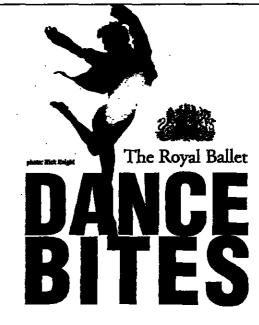
No wonder the cream of young European singers have been flocking to take part in the August-to-October pro-gramme they have devised for EUO's first year. Eugene Onegin, conducted by Rozhdestvensky in the new Baden-Baden theatre: concerts of Béatrice et Bénédict conduct-

holm and hearing one major talent after another, three, four, five in a row, was tremendously exciting." Dickie recalls. Italy was disap-pointing, but Jackson feels they failed to connect with the best the country had to offer. Both were impressed with the exciting voices coming out of Spain, and the UK, patriots will be pleased to hear, came joint second in the number of Sitting in on auditions in London, I was surprised that

these were not just college youngsters but also artists with established careers, attracted by the opportunity to work with top people and the exposure to classy audiences, agents and management. Young opera singers are

being furnished with rich opportunities for development coincidentally a similar venture, the Manchester-based European Opera Centre, starts on Saturday in the less glamorous setting of Buxton). But will there be anything for them to do in five years' time? Opera is in the doghouse here, with talk of decreased funding even on the Continent.

Dickie is bullish: "Are you trying to tell me that opera's not going to flourish in the next millennium? Of course it is! It's only a temporary situation." I hope he's right, and so do 56 young singers in Baden-



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LONDON

EVERYMAN losson Mydell in the title produced religious drama homicica 1500 Last year's Stratford production. admirable in parts Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk St. 902 0171-638-8891) Previews from tonight.

MACRETH Paul Shelley and Frons Remsay play Mr and Mrs M in the first Shakespeare to play here for 12 years

7.15pm Opens Feb 16, 7pm. In rep.

Strantspeare by payment of 12 years Sam Walters directs Orange Tree, Clarente Street, Ruchmond (0181-940 3633), Opens Runght, 7 45pm. Then Mort Sat. 7 45pm mats Thur (Feb 19, Mar 5, 12, 19), 2 30pm Sat (from Mer 7), 4pm, No-perts Feb 9 or 23 Until April 4, (§)

SOUNDS OF NORWAY: The salver-water Norwegum soprano Solvery vaccet Nonvegua soprano Solverg kungetoom, already a familiar name on the international opera circuit and a leading interpretor of the songs of her nailve land, gives a recital largely devoted to her companions Gneg. Sigurd Lie. Sinding and Backer-Grangahl. She is accompanied on the piano by Malcolm Manineau. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Sheet, W1 (0171-935 2141) Tonight, 7 30pm. (5)

ALT-HEDO (GRAUS: The velicer Spanish hono continues his long association with the Royal Opera as his juris the Royal Opera House Orchestra for a context performance of anas from his carefully choson separatoric. Barbican, S4: Street, EC2 (0171-638 8801; Tonight, 7 30pm (5) ALFREDO KRAUS: The veteran

IN FIVE YEARS' TIME: Ren an PME YEARS I target not apportunity to see Lorca's allegorical "mystery play about brine" where a young bridegroom is differing between eality and escaptism. Marta Momblant Ribas deeds a cast from Complicate. Testre du Solal and Le Coq. Southwark Physhousa, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (0171-620 3494).

AMY'S VIEW Judi Dench and Samartine Bond play mother and daughter in David Hare's riveting drams of love, ambtion, resenting

Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mai Sat.

CAUSE CELEBRE Ratingar's last play, a battle of moral altitudes between Alma Ratienbury and a woman in the jury trying her lor the murder of her elderly husband. Ned Bartett directs the angry assessment of 1930s.

Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mat Sat, 2 30pm. (a)

m CHICAGO: Revised version of the celebrated Number & Ebb musical directed by Walter Bobber A multi-Tony winter on Broadway lest year Staming Ruthe Henshalf Uto Lemper Henry Goodman and Nigol Planer Adelphit Strand, WCZ 10171-344 00551 Mino-Sat Amer mals Wed and

0055) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and

CITHE CHILD Opening of the company's European Bernrale Noneegan John Fosse's play about a young couple aftor meet at a bus stop and move in together. Plays the same stable of activities and activities and activities.

night as Leatherface Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Pub. 11 Pembridge Road W11 (0171-229 0706).

Mon-Sat 8 30pm Until Feb 24

NEW RELEASES

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THOO YOU COME HERE OFTEN The sublemely futury couple, Hamish McColt and Seen Foley rake The Right Sce), army in the West End with their in tantasy of him men trapped in a

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

Previews tonight, 7,30pm Opens tomonow, 7,30pm Then Mon-Sot, 7,30pm Until March 7 ELSEWHERE GLASCOW Nigel Lowery directs, designs and lights Hener Muller's generally opeque piece Quarter, set in some unspecified luture and inspired by Les Liscons Dangerouses.

Citizens (Circle Studio), Gorbels (0141-429 (022) Free preview foreight, 7 30pm Opens formation, 7 30pm

SOUTHAMPTON Opening right for a low-week run of the classic Sondhein/Bernston musical West Side Story. Alan Johnson recreates Then Mon-Sat. 7 30pm. Jerome Robbins's direction for the 1958 Broadway original, with Kabe Knight-Adams and David Habbin as the Ningth-Analite and Levin charter as the lovers. Towning prior to a West End run. Marytiower Theatine. Commercial Road (01703 711811) Tomogrit. 7 30pm; formatione, 230pm and 7 30pm; Their Mon-Sat. 7 30pm; mais Wed and Set. 2 30pm; Lintil March 7 (2) LONDON GALLERIES Berbicen: Shaker: The Art of Crathmencing (0171-638 8891) Design Museum: A tour of borycle design listory (0171-378 6053) Detwick: Passion in penting (0181-633 5354) Hayward: Harri Cartier-Bresson: Europeana (0171-923 3144) Minacette of Lendon Storous and

Solveig Kringelborn sings at the Wigmore

THEATRE GUIDE

Veudeville Thenine, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) Mon-Ser, 7.30pm; mat Sar, 4pm, Und Feb 14.

Consect Theorem Page 1731 Mar-Sat, 745pm, mals Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm THE MAGISTRATE: Ian

C) The Madish Interest of the Modern plays the much harassed hero in a fituilly furnry revival of Prinero's larce Cest includes Graham Crowden. Frank Middlemass, John Padden Servey, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Mon-Sat 7 30pm; mais Wod and Sat Jenn Ed. Sat, 3pm. (5)

□ BUTABLUTIE. Trevor Num directs new Frank McGumess plan, set in ireland in 1598 and also in a land of mith where the nods of English robberner in reland may have their origin Patrick, Malehide, Anion Lesser, Alsting O'Sullivan play characters that include the poot Spenser and a playwright named William. National (Cotresion), South Bank, SE1

(0171-928 2252) Tonight-Sat. 7 15pm; -mat Set. 2pm. In rep 🙆

8299) . Tata. Paul Winsterley (0171-887 8000) . . V & A. Colours of the

Inclus (0171-938 8349/8441)

Misseum of London. Severs at the re (0171-600-0807) . National: cognising Van Eyck (0171-747-2885) Seatchi: Alex Katz (0171-624

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LIVERPOOL. The acclaimed pranist images Cooper adds a touch of

Imogen Cooper edds a touch of exciterance to the Reyal Enterpool Philharmonic Orchestra's evening with a performance of Ravel's sparking, jazz-inspired G major Plano Concerto Mozari's overture to The Marriage of Figaro and Mather's Symphony No.4, with the soprand Annika Skoglund as solost, completes the programme. Libor Pešek conducts.

hillhanttonic Hall, Hope Street (015) 709 3789) Tonight, 7.30pm.

Pešek conducts.

IN MEVER LAND: Set in a French El MEVER LAND Set in a French vitage, where a family is obsessed with the England they have never visited. Phylis Nagy's briest play is a co-production with The Fraundry. Steven Princit's strong cast includes She's Geb and Pip Donaghy. Reyall Court Upstabris (Anthessadors), West St, WC2 (0171-565 5000) Monset, 7 45pm. Linti Feb 14

C SABINA: New Snoo Wilson play about the patient (Susan Vider) significantly passed on to Jung (Paul McGarn) by Feural (David Gard). See review, page 31.

Bush, Shapherds Bush Green, London W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat 8pm. STEPPING OUT, Musical version of Richard Herris's hit play Julia McKenze dreds Lz Robertson and her moders Alberty, S. Martin's Lane, WCZ (0171-369 1730), Mon-Sat, Spirit mats Thur.

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 ► FLUBBER (U) Cld-lashoned Disney comedy, with Robin Williams as the inventor of gravity-delying green goo Director, Les Mayfield na: Camden Town (0181-315 Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys (0 (0990 388990) Virgin Chelsea (0171-352 5096)

◆ THE ICE STORM (15): Comedical Nonderhal observant social drama. Wonderhal / observant social drama, directed by Ang Lee, with Lown Kine and Sepurney Weaver Chelsee (017): 551-3742, Clepham Pleture House (017): 951-3742, Clepham Pleture House (017): 932-3323 (Gate 5): (917): 727-4043; Greenwich (018): 235-2039 (Odeon Haymarket (018): 215-2012 (Richmond (018): 332-203) (Rizy (917): 737-212); Screen/Rill (9): 7017-735-2336 (Winner 5: 917): 437-335)

UGETSU MONOGATARI: Mizogutini s 1933 speciamon about a feth-contary pener seduced by a phantem, one of

THE WOODLANDERS - F.S. tere in Paretta Assasse, alth

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's asset films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

a powerful performance by Emily Woof as the woodland girl who makes a mistaken marriago. Phil Agland directs; with Rufus Sewell. p West End (0171-369 1732) gton (0181-315 4214) CURRENT

◆ THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (18): THE DEVR.'S ADVOCATE (18):
 Stanc Al Paono nvitos Knaru, Revesto his New York lew fam. Preposterous drams, both appalling and fam.
 ABC Tottlenbest Court fand (0171-636 f148): Odeonst: Canden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensingson (0181-315 4214) Marchia Arch (0181-315 4214) 315-4214) Internote April (1761-315-420) 4216; Series Cottinge (1781-315-420) UCI Whiteleys © (0990-888990) Virginst Fulham Road (0171-370 536) Trocadero © (0181-970-6015) Warmer © (0171-437-4343)

IN THE COMPANY OF MEN (18)

19 THE COMPANY OF MEN (18)
Young mule essectimes, but with the
attections of a deaf office worker
Shilliand, unsetting, darkly furmy drama
by Neel LaBure
ABCs: Penden Street (0171-930 9831)
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Tottentham Court Roset (0171-938 9931)
Ritary (0171-737 2121) Vingin Fullham
Roset (0171-370 2636)

◆ L.A. CONFIDENTIAL (18): Smeshing drama about compition in LA in the early 1950s, with Kean Spacey, Russell Crowe, Kim Basingsr, Guy Pearce and Darry Devito, ABCs: Baker Street (1771-935 9772) Streets Street (1771-935) Paralon Street (0171-930 0631) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4229) Saries Cottage (0181-315 4220) 2636) Trocadero (5) (0181-970 6015) Waster (5) (0171-437 4343)

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◆ TITARIC (12): Kute Winstet and
Leonardo DiCagno hall in three on the
doomed liner Ultimately overwhelming
spc, directed by James Cameron.
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6705) Odeonar Camden Town (0181315 4255) Kanstagnote (0181-315 315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Leicester Square (0181-315 4214) Leicester Square (0:81-315 4215) Marble Arch (0:81-3:5 4216) 42(5) Windle Arch (1981-235 4276) Spiles Cottage (1981-235 4220) Ritzy (1971-237 2121) Screen, Belter Street (1971-335 2770) UCI Whiteleys & (1950 88399) Wighers Challes (1971-352 5056) Fullbate Road (5171-

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Pure pop for now people 0

t was rather appropriate that Nick Lowe should return to London night-life while the Brit Awards were taking place in some unadjacent universe on Monday evening. The seasoned troubadour has floated completely free from the orbit of such mainstream machinations, and the mobile phones and goatees were strangely unmissed as he played the last of three UK dates on his mini

With Dig My Mood, his delightful new album for Demon Records, Lowe has to all intents and purposes completthe shedding of his

rock n'roll shell and aired his soul in a new location. Remembered first as a

member of stars-that-nevershone Brinsley Schwarz, then as a pioneer of the new wave with Stiff Records, then as perhaps the most respected British producer of the postpunk era, then as a fleeting chartmaker in his own right, Lowe has now perfected a persona that lists all of the above as ingredients, but comes from a glorious hinterland that is pre-Beatles, mostly pre-Bill Haley and always

prepossessing. In dark suit and with his white hair still advertising that mighty quiff, Lowe looked like an upmarket cabaret host. opening the evening with half a dozen solo acoustic numbers and chatting amiably to his relaxed crowd of devotees.

The opening shot was an unexpected but charming cov-er of Ron Sexsmith's Secret Heart. John Hiatt's She Don't Love Nobody was another early interpretation, interspersed with such 1990s originals as Soulful Wind and



Pre-Beatles, mostly pre-Bill Haley and always prepossessing, veteran Nick Lowe still provides a great night out that is such an authentic record this year the remark- Berry I Knew the Bride (When

What's Shakin' on the Hill and a still-spritely reading of his 1979 hit, Cruel to be Kind. After the arrival of his threepiece backing group. Lowe presented renditions of two old

'uns but good 'uns, I Live on a Battlefield and Crackin' Up, in a delicious format close to cocktail lounge blues. The filling for that sandwich came in the form of You Inspire Me, a ballad from Dig My Mood

period serenade as to seem lifted directly from the Nat King Cole catalogue.

There was room for fresh selections with old-country charm such as Lonesome Reverie and Man That I've Become, the latter a giorious caricature of a lovelorn curmudgeon. He also gave us one of the most arrestingly stark tracks we are likely to hear on

John Ford. He rocked, gently, on his venerable homage to Ghuck

able Faithless Lover, which Lowe sang in something he tween a whisper and a death, rattle, and which seems in belong on the soundtrack of its usual uplifting self. Shelley some monochrome western of my Love, meanwhile, was as decades past. On the recorded endearing a Valentine as will version, one almost expected: be sent all week. By the end his the producer to be listed as mood had indeed been well and truly dug.

PAUL SEXTON

CONCERTS: Conductor takes a musical holiday; and Wagnerian delights in sound and vision

French with some polish

LIPCIELOS

A HAPPY consequence of appointing a Czech to succeed a Czech as principal conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra is that the first Czech, now conductor laureate; has been liberated from the domestic repertoire. If only - one thought, listening to his voluptuous interpretation of Prélude à l'après midi d'un faune - Libor Pešek had conducted a little more Debussy and a little less Dvořák, life in the Philharmonic Hall would have been more interesting.

He did occasionally indulge his taste for French music in his time as principal conductor but never, surely. to this extent. There was Debussy. Satie and Ravel and, of a later and less celebrated generation, Andre Jolivet. Having few of the seductive qualities of the other works in the programme, Inliver's Bassoon Concerto was well chosen as the centrepiece, the tough

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sound and the tight construction offsetting the more poetic inspirations on either side of it. Unfortunately, it is a work that requires a bassoonist with much more soloistic authority and just a little more technical accomplishment than Alan Pendlebury apparently has to offer, it would be a pity if, having penetrated so far, the composer were to be written off in Liverpool on the evidence of one underpowered periormance. But. unless Pesek can be persuaded to embrace one of the prickly symphonies. Jolivers future might be no brighter here than

anywhere else in this country.

In the meantime, Pesek and the RLPO woodwind demonstrated their: sensitivity to Impressionist colouring in the Debussy Prélude, to expressive understatement in the same composer's orchestrations of two of Satie's Gymnopédies and to Neo-Classical fluency in Ravel's Tombeau de Couperin. Best of all, at the end of the concert. Pesek conducted a particularly wellstructured interpretation of Debussy's La Mer. If the first movement failed to move on with the tide, the other two were unusually successful, gathering the long-term momentum to generate a splendidly broad and buoyant brass chorale at the climax of the work.

GERALD LARNER

Soprano's

THE greatest danger facing purveyors of Wagnerian excerpts is that the purple patches, shorn of their dramatic context, fail to yield their full potential. it is a tribute to the soprano Waltrand. Meier, accompanied by the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House under Peter Schneider (standing in for Charles Mackerras), that so long as they were in full flight, one was able to forget the lack of a theatrical dimension.

With playing as finely muanced as this — woodwind and string lines tone - it was a pleasure to appreciate. Wagner's masterly accoring visitally as well as aurally.

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Nor was Meier in serious danger of Soprano's being swamped for long even by the Wagherian orchestra at full throttle. Now that the soprano tessitura of this sound bites former mezzo has thoroughly settled, she fides the flood effortlessly, throwing off the kigh is with just a hint of isong dangenously.

She began with Isolde's Narration and Isolde,

an explosive end:

Something similar happened in Sieglinde's Narration from Die Walkure, when after a word-sensitive retelling of the events of the herome's forced marriage, Meier raised the emotional temperature with an unstoppable torrent of passion. Abandoned by the vocal line mid-flight. Schneider brought the proceedings to a necessarily premature end with a cods

At least with the Prelude and Liebestod from Tristan, the beginning and end of the work are unviolated, whatever happens in between. Meier's artistry and total commitment conjured a true transfiguration.

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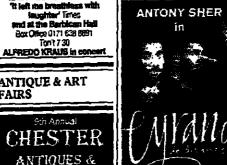
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The longer

How did Shelagh Stephenson go from unhappy actress to hit playwright? Daniel Rosenthal reports

مكذا من الاجل

Stephenson files to Chicago to watch the American premiere of her first stage play; next week she returns to Manchester to attend the world premiere of her second. You could not script a more arresting contrast between that itinerary and the mittal phase of Stephenson's theatre career; ten lost and miserable" years as an actress. during which her writing ambitions were buried beneath waitressing jobs and unrewarding parts with the Royal Shakespeare Company

The play which America's celebrated Stepperwolf the atre company is producing in Charago is The Memory of Water, in Stephenson's two words a pretty black and, in an awful way, very furny work in which three English sisters gathered for the funeral of their mother are confronted by her ghost and some equally unting home truths. If was first seen at Hamp-

stead Theatre in 1996, directed. by Terry Johnson. On the basis of her first two radio dramas, Johnson had told Stephenson he would kill her if she did not write for the stage and the threat paid off. The reviews were almost uniformly good, and nominations for playwright and new writer of the year followed. Stephenson's only concern

over the Chicago production is how it will sound. They haven't relocated the action to an American town - the director said We wouldn't set a Sam Shepard play in Hull. so we're not moving yours' -so I'm worried the women may sound like Meryl Streep in The French Lieutenant's Woman, with that rurious accent nobody's had here since

With further productions already scheduled in Toronto, Munich, Tel Aviv and Buenos Aires. The Memory of Water. written after the death of her own mother, is developing into Stephenson's global calling card: "Ultimately, it's a play about mothers and daughters. and that gives it a universal appeal."

She thinks it "very unlikely" that the subject-matter of An-Experiment with an Airpump, which opens at the Royal Exchange on Tuesday, will travel as easily. Opening with a tableau which recreates Joseph Wright's 1760s painting. An Experiment On a Bird In The Air Pump, the action. switches back and forth be-December 1999, In 1799 we are v just as dark, but far more. in the Newcastle home of ambitious than The Memory Joseph Ferwick (played by David Horovitch), a physician, scientist and radical determined to storm into the next century , accompanied by his wife. Susannah (Dearbhla Molloy), their twin daughters. and a hunchbacked Scots maid. For New Year's Eve, 1999, we are in the same house, and Horovitch and Molloy double as Tom, a redundant English lecturer, and his wife. Ellen, a high-



Shelagh Stephenson at rehearsals for An Experiment with an Air-pump, her second play, which opens in Manchester next week

Dreading the boards no longer

flying geneticist troubled by the morality of her experi-

With its interlocking historical perspectives on class, medical ethics, women's rights and the use of language (Peter Mark Roget, later of Thesau- end of the 19th. In 1799, they of Water, or Stephenson's award-winning 1996 radio play Five Kinds of Silence, a heartbreaking tale of two daughters who murder their paranoid, abusive father.

After those two I wanted to write something bigger and less domestic," she says. "I think that women often get. corralled into writing small plays which are just about people's relationships. I didn't want that to happen to me.

play at the turn and end of this century. But then I began to feel that the prevailing mood at the end of the 18th century was much closer to where we are now than the mood at the

"At first I wanted to set this

rus fame", is one of Fenwick's were on the brink of the knew change was coming; but had no idea how vast it would be. It's the same for us: we have created all this phenomenal new science and technology, but we don't know how we're going to control it. A hundred years ago there was less to worry about. Everyone thought: Well, we've still got the Empire, so it Il be business as usual in the 20th'."

Stephenson has known Molloy since 1982, when they were both in the cast of Solzhenitsyn's The Love Girl and the Innocent, an RSC production that marked probably the lowest point of Stephenson's unhappy stage

She had grown up certain that she wanted to become a writer. "I loved theatre, but I didn't know you could be a "Caryl Churchill was the only female dramatist around at that time and I hadn't even heard of her. So I ended up reading drama at Manchester and then, at 21, thought:

Work with the RSC paid the bills but brought no satisfaction. Eventually she gave up stage acting altogether because she simply could not take it seriously. To be a good actor you have to inhabit the part, but on stage I would have a terrible sense of standing

longer felt lost.

After that I was very poor for quite a while, but I so enjoyed being on my own with a word processor, or sitting in

outside myself and asking

Why am I wearing this dress?

This is stupid.' It meant 1

hated my twenties, a lot of

which were spent working as a

waitress or sitting around

waiting for my agent to ring."

She carried on looking for television work until 1987.

when she "finally plucked up

the courage" to dedicate her-

self to writing. Four months

a library, researching, that it never crossed my mind to give up and get a 'proper' job. It's wonderful that I can now earn a good living as a writer." The radical shift in fortune strikes her as a natural progression: "It doesn't feel like I'm having a second career in

after her last audition, she had

an unsolicited radio play ac-

cepted by Radio 4, and "no

in life. Maybe I'm a lare An Experiment with an Airand opens on Tuesday at the Royal Exchange, Manchester 10161-833

the theatre, it feels like I've just

taken a long time to get going

Goodbye Verona

n my way to this theatre I realised I was wearing a black tie. My unconscious had known what I was about, for this production will be the last here before the London Arts Board closes the theatre down, Greenwich has been shown the future and it is domeshaped and costs £700 million. equivalent to its theatre's annual funding (\$210,000) for the next 3,500 years.

This closing production is colourful but undeniably a disappointment. The director is Rupert Goold, whose recent version of Graham Greene's The End of the Affair was generally liked, but many of his attempts to enliven this old tragedy end up making it seem even further away from modern experience than usual. We are no longer required to

accept that the love professed by Romeo and Juliet is eternal. or even likely to continue beyond next Friday. Escaping their ghastly environment can be presented as an equally powerful impulse. But the strength of love, rebellion or a combination of the two is not shown simply by setting the action in today's Verona, with its cropped T-shirts and heavyduty trainers.

Even without the presence

Romeo and

Juliet Greenwich

conversation, the sheer rapidity of events looks ludicrous today: met on Monday, married on Tuesday, exiled Wednesday, dead on Thursday. Only by treating the lines wholeheartedly as poetry, and

more or less out of this world.

are we able to give credence to

Matthew Wright's piazza set is picturesque and works well enough for the interiors. After Juliet's supposed death Goold bravely keeps her on stage throughout the lamentations, funeral rites, visits to the apothecary and so on: a feat of breath control for Kate Fleetwood that pays off as a strong image, lying immobile on the circular bed above the pool. She also knows what feelings underpin her words, enabling the lines to ring true. Nicholas from looks properly callow as Romeo but too much of the poetry escapes him. As for the brawling, adulterous (Old Capulet with the Nursel citizens of Verona, it was a relief

JEREMY KINGSTON

when duels eliminated them.

Loud dreams

Trantic Assembly is a theatre company for the twenties. Not the 1920s, but the anxious grown-up children of the 1970s. "Is in going to be cleaning toilets at Gate 13?" wonders the young blonde, trying to read her future in the faces of the audience. I stare blankly back. The thumping music that sounds like a synthesized windscreen wiper has ceased to squeak. Four young clubbers are frozen in mid-gyration while a fifth, Georgina, uses this gap to wrestle with her place in the Universe.

hills, and it has been reappropriated by Frantic Assembly to articulate the millennium fever of the chemical generation. On New Year's Eve the company take it in turns to unlock their thoughts. Cait talks of her child and the awfulness of her mother. The pixie-ish Korina worries about assurance, travellers, smokers, paedophiles and science. Stevie fantasises about flashy images of himself. Georgina talks of stopping the

It's a moment as old as the

BAC, SW11

The quality of the truth being sifted, however, is another matter. Most of the company's ramblings are spliced like bad vox pops around Andy Cleeton, Neil Thome and Lee Simpson's throbbing techno soundtrack. which gives the company ample opportunity to show off Stephen Kirkham's wonderfully physical dance routines.

Frantic's most notable innovation is a large plastic doll's house into which they squash like sardines and then emerge. amazingly, in school uniforms with bottle-thick glasses and blond wigs. It is a surreal piece of choreography at the MTV end of peformance art. With more wit and invention they might even emulate the success of companies like Volcano TC. But in the meantime they are still scrabbling for a punchline for Zero.

> JAMES CHRISTOPHER

Jung love fails close analysis

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ELLIOT DAVIS

e all know what tun-nels symbolise in Freudian psychology and, since the Bush people lead us into their auditorium via a tunnel whose walls are covered with chains, bandcuffs, diidos and photographs of vomen in various stages of undress and bondage, it is a fair guess that, despite its dainty title, Snoo Wilson's latest play is not going to be about flower arrangement. Nor is it Like his recent

HRH, which largely involved the lurid games the late Duke of Windsor allegedly played with the late Duchess, Sabina is about the power of sex-Specifically, it is about the power sex had over Freud's menolithic mind and failed finally to have over Jung's more supple and wide-ranging but less scientifically precise intellect. More specifically still, it is about a patient who became one of the many loves in the great Carl Gustav's life. This is an arresting subject,

and there are times when Wilson duly arrests you. But there are others when he is the victim of one of his strengths. his imaginative restlessness. HRH was a near-naturalistic piece and none the worse for that Aided by Andy Wilson's



Susan Vidler (Sabina) and Paul McGann (Jung)

Bush, W11

bold but overwrought production, Sabina opts for a surreal, nightmarish feel that is not always friendly to exploration of character, depth of debate, or narrative clarity.

David Gant's Freud emerges as a sex-fixated megalomaniac, as unflinching as any medieval monaith or modern dictator when it comes to squashing dissent. including the dissent of Jung, his brilliant but wayward disciple. But to do Wilson iustice. Jung seems a more

Profession: Composer,

songwriter and musical di-

rector, now turned producer.

Present occupation: His production of Of Blessed

Memory by George Rattner

opened at the King's Head in

Islington this week, an intri-

cate play about the dilem-

mas of religious and secular

Other occupations? He has

just signed a songwriting contract with Warner Chap-

pell, who are also handling

Watermark, a musical he

wrote based on La traviata

who worked on Martin Guerre. He also directed

Lucky Stiff at the Bridewell Theatre. "And I've directed

four short films including

one about child abuse and its

effect on adult life called

Dance To Your Daddy."

with lyrics by Stephen Clark,

Age: 25.

morality

complex character, if not a deeper thinker. His theory comes across as a mish-mash of superstition, occultism and woolly nostalgia for the pagan; but, as played in cool, impassive fashion by Paul McGann, he is an interesting

mix of the fine and the petty. Myself, 1 wish the two Wilsons had ditched both an irritating chorus-ligure (Mark Long, looking like a vaguely transvestite Mercury) based on Jung's own spirit-guide, and the cartoonish scenes involving the sex-mad parents of his mistress, the title character. Instead, he could have looked closer at the evolution of his relationship with Sabina

Don't so many different

roles make life complicat-

ed? "I'm concentrating on

composing but if I have the

chance to work with interest-

ing people I'll do anything. I

find the roles are all compati-

ble because if you don't have

the business acumen to put a

show together you can't real-

it was a dream to work

ise your artistic vision,"

who begins as an hysteric. babbling inside a straitjacket. and ends up understandably irked by a lover who one moment treats her like a Wagnerian heroine and the next berrays her like a sneak thief, Large mind, small man: that seems to be Wilson's view of Jung, visionary and opporrunist. spiritual adventurer and, maybe, anti-Semite.

But is this a just assessment or a superficial take? Despite its crazy inventiveness - or because of it - Sabina left me

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

with someone like that."

Training: "I did all my Inspiration: "Anyone who grades at piano and then can write a great melody. olayed in a jazz band at Mill That's the key. People like Hill school in north London. Bernstein. It sounds naff to I read politics, but I gave say Lloyd Webber but he myself two years to make a knows how to write a time." name in the arts because I

didn't want to be a lawyer." What next? "I want a hit record and a hit show, But First break? "I wrote to the first step is to get one of Lionel Bart when I was still my songs picked up by an at Warwick University after international artist. As a I saw a South Bank Show composer, to have other about him. He wrote back people singing your songs is and we met and then 1 the biggest thrill of all." assisted him on some music. It didn't get me any jobs but

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

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THE SEA TIMES

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Habitual residence qualification for benefit Substantial damages for

Officer

Before Lord Justice Morritt, Lord Justice Thorpe and Sir Christopher Staughton Judgment February 5

In order to qualify for income support, an applicant had to show that she was in the United Kingdom voluntarily and for settled purposes for an appreciable period of time before she could claim to be

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved majority judgment (Lord Justice Thorpe dissenting) dismissing an appeal brought by Mrs Joybun Nessa against the decision of Mr J. Mesher, a social security commissioner, on June 6, 1996 reversing the decision of a social security appeal tribunal that the applicant was habitually resident as on the date of her arrival in the Inited Kingdom and was therefore entitled to income support. Mr Richard Drabble, OC and

Ms Nathalie Lieven for the applicant: Mr Nicholas Paines, QC, for the Chief Adjudication Officer. SIR CHRISTOPHER STAUGHTON said that the ap-

plicant arrived on August 22, 1994. he was 55 and had lived all her life in Bangladesh. She had been and worked in the United King-dom from 1962 until his death in

Before Mr Justice Lightman

Payment to a tenant farmer by his landlord on the surrender of an

agricultural tenancy did not qual-

ify for capital gains tax relief on retirement from a family business

of the whole or part of a business

|Judgment February 3|

abode when she arrived 19 years later. She was not her husband's only wife and nor were her three children the only ones fathered by

On September 6, 1994 she claimed income support. An adjudication officer decided that the claim failed on the ground that she was not habitually resident. A social security appeal tribunal reversed that decision but its decision was reversed by Mr

By virtue of paragraph 17 of Schedule 7 to the Income Support (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1967) as introduced by regulation 4(!) of the Income-related Benefits Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No 3) Regulations (SI 1994 No 1807), the applicable amount of income support for a single claim-ant from abroad was nil. Thus the applicant was only entitled to income support if she was habit-

The issue on the appeal was whether it was enough to show that a claimant was in the United Kingdom voluntarily and for settled purposes, or whether it also had to be proved that she had fulfilled those two conditions for

an appreciable period of time. Left to himself, his Lordship would say that a person was not

purposes. "Habitually" to his Lordship's mind described residence which had already achieved a degree of continuity.

The same view was taken by Lord Brandon of Oakbrook in In re J (a minor) (Abduction: Custody rights) (1990) 2 AC 562, 578).

Mr Drabble argued that what Lord Brandon had said was both obiter and wrong. He relied on two other House of Lords' decisions where the words in question were "ordinary residence" or "or-dinarily resident": Inland Revenue Commissioners v Lysaght [[1928] AC 234] and R v Barnet Borough Council, Ex parte Shah [[1983] 2 AC 309) as well as various other ases mainly from the Family

In his Lordship's judgment however, it was appropriate to follow what was said by Lord Brandon in In re J for six reasons: I It accorded with the ordinary English meaning of the words in the regulation:
2 It had since been accepted by the Court of Appeal in Re F (a Minor) (Child Abduction) (1992) I FLR 548): Re M (Minors) (Residence

Division.

order: Jurisdiction) ([1993] 1 FLR 495) 2nd M v M (Abduction: England and Scotland) ([1997] FLR 263): 3 It was cited by the House of Lords without disapproval in In re S (a Minor) (Custody: Habitual

Capital gains liability after continuation of business

At the time Mr Powell was granted a temporary licence with-out any security rights to use the land until it was required by the

the disposal of the tenancy was the

residence) ([1997] 3 WLR 596): was no material distinction be-4 The draftsman should be taken to have in mind the established meaning of "habitually resident" The principal point was whether at the time when those words were

three sentences in Lord Brandon's introduced by amendment in 1994; speech in In re I were to be adopted 5 If an appreciable period was or rejected. They were clearly obiter and so the question of required in family cases, there was, if anything, a stronger argu-ment for that result in the regulawhether an appreciable period was an essential ingredient of habitual tion of income support, since there residence was open for considwas evidently an intention to impose some restriction of the eration on the appeal. His Lordship was firmly of the

immediate reports of those who view that it was not. There seemed came from abroad and 6 Lord Brandon's observations little likelihood of the concept of habitual residence being given whether oblier or not, were a different values in social security considered view and should only be departed from, if at all, by the

and family law.
For the family lawyer, the adjective "habitual" did not in the His Lordship would dismiss the present context carry its literal sense so much as the sense of the LORD JUSTICE THORPE. quality of the connection of the dissenting, said that residence had individual to the relevant society a prominent part in family law statutes. The density of the foot-notes in sections 5.3 and 5.4 of for the purposes of the convention or legislation to be applied.

The adjective ensured that that connection was not transitory or temporary but enduring and the necessary durability could be judged prospectively in exceptional cases. His Lordship would allow the appeal.

Lord Justice Morrist delivered a judgment concurring with Sir Christopher Staughton.

cesser of the business carried on by

That was an issue of fact for the

commissioners. But in so deciding

it they had to direct themselves

correctly in law. The question the

commissioners had asked them-

selves was whether the disposal by way of surrender led to a position

in relation to Mr Powell's farming business which was wholly dif-ferent from that which obtained

But the test they had applied was

not the statutory test. The fact that the future of the business so far as

it was carried on at the tenante

iand became precarious because of the uncertainty of its future dura-

tion did not mean that Mr Powell

ceased to carry on the same business activity afterwards as before or that he had made any

disposal of any part of his busi-

There was no change in the

character of his business and no

abrogation of a separate part of his

business: compare Jarmin

before the surrender.

statutes had used the same Solicitors: T. V. Edwards, Aldgate, Solicitor, Department of Social Security. The cases established that the words had the same meaning in

Mr Powell.

non-owner employer

Alfred McAlpine Construc-tion Ltd v Panatown Ltd Before Lord Justice Evens. Lord ustice Hutchison and Lord Justice

[Judgment February 5] Norwithstanding that it was not the owner of the land, the party which employed a contractor under a construction contract was emitted to recover substantial damages, that is, the appropriate measure of damages, for the contractor's failure to carry our the work in accordance with his

obligations under the contract. The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of Panatown Ltd, the employer under a construction contract dated November 3, 1989, by which the contractors. Alfred McAlpine Construction Ltd, undertook to design and build an office building. and multi-storey car park in Cambridge, against Judge Anthony Thornton, QC, who, sitting on Official Referee's business on April 12, 1996, had allowed the contractors' around 15 contractors' appeal from an in-terim award of an arbitrator, Mr John H. M. Sims, who held that the employer was not debarred from recovering substantial

Mr David Friedman, QC, and Mr Jeremy Nicholson for Panatown; Mr Rupert Jackson, QC and Mr Paul Sutherland for the contractors.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the contract price was in excess of £10 million. The building was completed but was alleged to be so descrive that it might have to remained empty and unused.

The owners and developers of the site, an associated company of Panatown, did not enter the construction contract themselves. The contractual arrangements had been made for the purpose of avoiding liability to VAT which was not imposed on contracts for new buildings until September 1989, no VAT being incurred on the present contract although entered nto after the imposition of VAT.

Panatown commenced arbitra-tion proceedings against the con-tractors for the alleged defective works. The contractors contended. simply that Panatown was not entitled to recover other than

breaches because it was never the Site OWNER. was, essentially, that a plaintiff could not recover compensation for the consequences of breach of contract when the actual loss had been suffered in the circumstances not by him but by a third person who was not a party to the

contract. An exception to the rule established in Dunlop v Lambert ((1839) 6 Clas F 600), namely, that the consignor of goods could recover damages for loss of or damage to the goods in the course of their carriage even if the goods had become the property of a consignee before the loss or damage occurred, was held not to apply when the parties to the original contract, consignor and carrier, contem-plated that a separate contract would come into existence between the carrier and consigness, regulating the liabilities between them: The Albarero [1977] AC 774].

them: The Albarero (1977) AC.774:
The Dunlop v Lumbert energins was extended to building contracts, enabling the employer to recover substantial damages from the contractor, by the House of Lords in St Martins Property Corporation Ind v Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd, the second class in Linden Gardens Trust Ltd v Lenesta Studge Disposals Ind (1994) I AC 85), and by the Court of Appeal in Darlington Borough Council v Wilshier Northern Ind. (1995) I WIR 68.

The court considered the reasons for the courts decisions in those

for the courts' decisions in those cases, and concluded from them that there was clear House of Lords authority that in at least twokinds of cases a contracting party could recover substantial damages for breach even though the linancial loss which was the measure of damages had not been borne by

Dunlop v Lambert established that the right to recover substantial damages arose because the parties to the contract intended or contemplated that it should, their inten-tion being ascertained from the contract's terms and the circum-

stances in which it was made Although described as an exception to the general rule, equally it was simply equivalent to saying that the general rule could be

eration of the extensive citation of The general rule of English law authority by counsel, that the rationale of Dunlop v Lambert and the St Mortins case was contractbased, and that the latter case was direct authority that such an approach should be adopted when the claim was for damages kn descrive work by the employer against the contractor under a building contract of the present

> That case showed that Panatewn were not debarred from entitlement to recover substantial damages by the fact that they were not. and never had been the building

> The question remained whether the contractual rights given to the the cumum tagets given to the building owners against the con-tractors direct precinded the Dun-top v Lambert approach, as they did in The Albarero in the present

The contractors, on the same day as the building contract with Panatown, entered into an agree-ment with the building owners; the duty of care deed.

Having considered the terms of both contracts, the court found that, in respect of the building contract, both parties contemsettled between them, and that an anomaly would arise if the emplayer could not recover damages for defective work and the parties expectations would be defeated.

Equally clearly, the duty of care deed, a separate contract from the beilding contract, was intended to create a right of action in contract for the building owner against the contractor if the contractor was in intended to preclude the employer's right to receive substantial damages for the contractors' breach.

Any risk of double recovery arose from the fact that there were two contracts rather than from the fact that the employer was entitled to recover substantial damages in the circumstances.

In the court's view, there would be no such risk if damages were recovered by the employer on behalf of the building owner, and such damages would have to be taken into account if the building owner made a separate claim. Solicitors: Cameron McKenna:

scheme of Order 17, rule 11 of the County Court Rules for a district

once started to run should be

Accordingly. Mr Powell had continued to farm it for a further two seasons after the surrender, the level of his farming operations remaining unchanged, until he was required to deliver up possession in Sentember 1991. nder section 69 of the Finance Act session in September 1991. 1985. Because the tenant took advantage for two years of a Mr Powell satisfied the age condition in section 69 of the 1985 temporary licence from the landlord to continue farming the land Act. He was entitled to the relief if

Defamation ruling

vision and Another While appeals under Order 82. rule 3A of the Rules of the Supreme Court were not to be encouraged, the Court of Appeal would be less reluctant to interfere with a judge's decision to rule out once and for all a particular allegediy defamatory meaning than with a decision that words were capable of bearing the

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Brooke) so held on January 13 allowing an appeal hy Inspector Patrick Paul Geenty rom a decision of Mr Justice May on January II. 1996.

THE 經濟 TIMES

cery Division allowing an appeal by the Crown from a determination by Bletchley general commissioners that had reduced to nil an assessment to capital gains tax on Robert James Powell for

Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown: Mr Powell in person.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that the payment of £120,000 had been made in 1990 by the landlord. Milton Keynes Development Corporation, to Mr Powell for surrendering his the surrender was not a "disnosal Mr Justice Lightman so held in a

The judge had held that words

defamation against Channel Four

Television and David Jessel were

incapable of meaning that he had

probably beaten Willie Wiltshire

n cells at Gloucester Police station.

the court had sought in Hinduja v

Asian TV Ltd (The Times Decem-

ber 12, 1997) to discourage appeals

under Order 82, rule 3A, but there was a significant difference be-

tween that type of case, where the

judge had held the words capable of bearing the disputed meaning.

judge had ruled out a disputed

LORD JUSTICE HIRST said

Savage v Saxena

Housing benefit paid to an employee following distrissal should not be deducted by an industrial tribunal from a compensatory

award for unfair dismissal. Judge Hargrove, sining in the Employment Appeal Tribunal with Miss D. Whittingham and Mr R. Sanderson, so stated on January 20 in a reserved majority

HIS LORDSHIP said that housing benefit stood apart from in-validity benefit and had its own code of enforcement review and been a change of circumstances which entitled the authority to

recover iL There was no provision for the authority to take into account the manner in which the industrial tribunal had computed the loss.

THE SUNDAYTIMES

ownership of an asset used in Mr Powell's business. However, by virtue of the new licence granted The authority would have a right to recover any sum which had apparantly been overpaid on

Benefit excluded

Moreover, if the industrial tribunal lessened the award by the amount of the housing benefit but still made a compensatory award. the local authority which had made payment of housing benefit could, upon the basis of the compensation, hold that there had

Rayden & Jackson on Divorce and

Family Matters (16th edition (1991))

illustrated that there had been innumerable decisions in which

the statutory words had been considered in a variety of factual

circumstances. Many of the cases cited were not family law cases

since revenue statutes and welfare

69(2)(a) was one of some difficulty. There was no statutory definition of "disposal". That gave rise to the problem of determining its mean-

ng in the connext of the section. An

But guidance as 10 its meaning

was provided in McGregor v Adoock ([1977] 1 WLR 86], Atkinson

v Dancer [1988] STC 758, Pepper v Daffurn [1993] STC 466) and farmin v Rawlings [1994] STC

The issue was whether there was

a disposal, not merely of an asset

used in Mr Powell's business, but

authoritative ruling by the Court of Appeal was much to be desired.

The subsequent cesser of Mr Powell's farming business could not be treated as part of the disposal effected by the surrender deed. Such cesser was the result of a decision made long afterwards. Clearly the disposal was of

by the landlord, Mr Powell was enabled thereafter to carry on exactly the same business, albeit

precarious, and he had so carried-on his business profitably for two The commissioners had misdirected themselves. Their decision

properly open to them was to hold that Mr Powell was not entitled to Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland

could not stand. The only decision

Automatic directions do not run

Figgett v Davies Before Lord Justice Hobbouse Lord Justice Brooke and Sir John

[Judgment January 30] Where a defence to a county court action was struck our with an

order that a fully pleaded defence. other directions were given, the automatic directions in Order 17. rule 11 of the County Court Rules did not begin to run again when a new defence was served. The effect action without directions.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal against the decision of Judge Davies in Kingston upon Hull County Court that the action of the plaintill, Christine Figgett, for negligent dental freat-ment against the defendant. David ual directions, automatic directions. Solicitors: Nigel W. Charles Edwin Davies, had been tions started to run again. Driffield: Hempsons.

automatically struck out under. There was no scope within the Order 17, rule II, and restoring the order of the district judge that the action had not been struck out. The judge to create a situation where action was remitted to the district automatic directions which had judge for directions and a new

judge for directions and a new automatically caricelled out by an innerable automatically caricelled out by an order striking out a form N9

Mr. Martin Spencer for the defence served several months the defendant, these dreumstances there

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE said was no provision under the rule

not decided in Bannister v SGB pic July 28, 1997; [1997] 4 All ER 181) The question was whether, if in the county court a district judge struck out a defence in N9 form as

that the appeal raised a novel point - for automatic directions to

It followed that the effect of the (The Times May 2, 1997; [1977] 4 All it followed that the effect of the ER 129) or Greig Middleton and judge's order striking out the Co Ltd v Denderowitz (The Times defence was to leave the action

Lord Justice Hobbouse and Sir Solicitors: Nigel Walshe & Co.

The Institute of Legal Executives Fellowship Admissions 1997

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Japan has golden moment to

savour HIROYASU SHIMIZU Was the cause of great celebration in Nagano, his home city, yesterday when he won the men's 500 metres speed skating title and became the first Japanese to take a Winter

Japan's last individual Olympic gold medal was won by Yukio Kasaya in the ski jumping at the Sapporo Games in 1972, although Japan did win a team title in in the Nordic Combined event in Lillehammer in 1994.

Nicky Gooch and Matthew lasper, two of Great Britain's short-track speedskaters have been struck



down by illness. Gooth bronze medal-winner in 1994. and Jasper, a former British champion, are both taking antibiotics. The Britain squad has been hit with illness for some weeks, but Alan Luke, the coach, had thought the problems were behind them. After two days of postpone

ments, Alpine skiing finally got under way. In the men's combined slalom, Mario Reiter, of Austria, holds a 1.81sec. lead over Lasse Kjus, of Norway, going into the decid-ing downhill on Thursday. Britain's women's curling

team produced a stirring fightback to retrieve a 42 deficit, scoring two shots on the last end, to beat Norway 6-4 in their third round-robin game. It leaves them in joint second place with Canada and Denmark. The men's team were easily beaten by Switzerland and Canada.

Anne Abernathy, known as Grandma Luge, yesterday. became the second oldest woman to compete in the Winter Olympics. The 44-US Virgin Islands en her fourth Games and she already has her sights set on Salt Lake City in 2002.

Winter Olympics: Dmitriev completes unique double

Human drama of Ring cycle

Rob Hughes reports

on a thrilling evening

of skill and courage at

the pairs figure skating

WHEN YOU enter the arena of the figure skaters, you expect entertainment, drama and excellence. As midnight approached in the White Ring in Nagano yesterday, we had all of that to thrilling excess, and the bonus of something unique. After four hours of a compelling

pairs figure skining contest, the champions were Artur Dmitriev and Oksana Kazakova, of Russia. She is the second partner in his career, the second time he has won gold at the Winter Olympic Games. No man has previously changed partners and won back the title. However, even though one judge, from the Czech Republic, awarded

them a perfect six for presentation. there came, in a meeting between Dinitriev and Ingo Stever, the bronze medal-winner, a moment of undisguised respect. For, while Dmitriev had needed to shed weight and to return his competitive instincts for this event, he knew that Steuer, from Germany, had gone through much more.

Steuer was making his final attempt to win an Olympic medal, but medically he had no business even being on the ice. He had torn ligaments in a shoulder before Christmas, aggravated that injury by coming back too soon and during the skaring here, had needed painkilling injections.

Moreover, he underwent the

sixth knee operation of his life last summer. His partner, Mandy Woetzel, small and petite and blonde, could share his pain or, at least, offer the memory of some of her own. In 1989, while attempting parallel spins with a former part-ner. Woetzel had fallen and her skull was split open by the blade of her partner's skate. "No more," the doctor told her; it was wisest to give up. "This is my life," she responded, "and I want to skate."

So, there is intrigue and human stories in the quest for perfection on ice. The White Ring is purpose built for these Olympics, a strange, rounded building with a roof of steel that the Japanese say takes its shape from a drop of water. Steuer and Woetzel, having de-

clared that this would be their last waltz in the Olympic domain, are German city of Chemnitz. They do. not move like soldiers, their coordination is complete, their music light and the choreography has a grace-



Steuer prepares to catch Woetzel during their free programme

ful, gentle effect. There were two errors in the programme, but at the end relief that Stever could hold her at all and, on the podium, a radiant satisfaction that, against the odds, they had achieved.

Their scores had averaged between 5.6 and 5.7 for technical merit and 5.8 for presentation. To that, one might merely add maximum marks for human courage. There can be no argument, and there was none from the knowledgeable audience, that Dmitriev is the champion pairs skater of them all, or that he has been able to lead and to channel

his knowledge towards a second, younger partner. You could see in the warm-up,

and then in the tense seconds before their 42-minute programme began, that Kazakova stands in awe of her partner. Yet anxiety gave way to a truly classical performance. Two figures in synchronised flow: Kazakova's graceful, gymnastic agility so clearly defined in the slower movements. Her technique can surely not be inferior to Natalia Mishkutienok, Dmitriev's former leading lady. Kazakova exhibits passion for the ing together with a death spiral only centimetres off the ground. The audience had seen enough.

they showered the ice with bouquets, their applause left no room for doubt, and the two champions of pairs skating shook in one another's arms, a duo united in relief. For her. Dmitries had slimmed down over half a stone, and had brought his own inconsistent concentration

Americans have recently considered that the Olympic ice is their territory, and they even had hopes until the last few performances last night. The United States team had brought back to the country of her birth Kyoko Inc. a remarkable child of sport.

Born in Tokyo, her grandmother played tennis at Wimbledon, her mother swam to triumph in the Asian Games and her father once cantained the United States athletics squad. Another human story, one to stretch our knowledge of family trees and to ponder whether talent is in the genes or the upbringing.

KYOKA INA, skuting with Jason Dungjen, finished fourth. Their programme had regained its impetus after he had slipped in the first movement. They struggled slightly for touch and for understanding. but eventually his immense power and her daring confidence gave a display that warranted the joy Inc. takes in performing.

She was doing so in the presence of Katerina Witt and Midori Ito. champions of the recent past, and, in a television commentary booth. was the final figure in this story of one rink, one sport, one remarkable combination of grace and courage. Ekaterina Gordeeva, born in

Russia but raising her daughter in the United States, lost her partner in November 1995. Sergei Grinkov suddenly collapsed while skating with her at Lake Placid, New York. The autopsy damned those who whispered about drug abuse, for Grinkov died of a heart attack, a congenital condition that runs in his family. Making a new life, Ekaterina wrote a best seller in her adopted language. My Sergei and says that, little by little, the good memories outweigh the bad.

In Memory, a tune by D Wright was the music chosen for the final Olympian performance of Steuer and Woetzel. They are going professional, but taking with them a medal that is decorated in the Japanese technique of Shippoyaki lacquer. There is more then a fixed smile to figure skating, more then synchronised athletic movement. There is life.

BBC turns blind eye as Hackl raises standard

impart a genuine sense of nobility to athletes. It does this by almost, but not quite. ignoring them. enigmatic hints and a perfectly stupendous achievement that is almost, but not quite, shoved out of sight, we are left with an impression of a rare hu man, a godling that walks among us. Call this the Red-

A household name is never a hero in his own household: his humanity gets in the way. We get so much sport on television and learn so much about the athletes, and, in particular, about their fallibilities. that we see them as real humans.

Hero-worship becomes impossible. We are told so much about fashionable footballers that we know everything, with the possible exception of their favourite sexual position and their howel movements. Or take Michael Atherton, the England cricket captain. We know of his beroic deeds, certainly, but we also know of his dirt-inpocket, truth-economical misdemeanours; we know about his grumpiness and his sulks. A terrific cricketer, but we know him, in a rough-and-ready fashion, as a man, It was easier to be a hero a few

decades back, when all you had to go on was a few lines of print, a few feet of newsreel and an enigmatic expression. Would Denis Compton have been an unambigious hero today? Not a chance. He'd have been all over the tabloids and succeeding and failing at cricket right in our living-rooms. Yet when we watch such events as

the Winter Olympic Games, we can go back in time to the age of real sporting heroes. In Nagano, on telly, we can find the true ignorance that makes a hero - and, in fact, the BBC's blizzard-driven curling binge has created one, by the simple process of almost, but not quite. ignoring him.

The man is Georg Hackl, who won his third Olympic gold medal in the luge. The BBC chose, for patriotic reasons, to go with the skidding, eyelinered women of the curling team - and wasn't it great when they beat Norway, thanks to that crucial hogline infringement? They kept the juge coverage to brief flashes of white lerror.

I spent a lot of time wondering

so especially terrify-

nent horror thing of this terror. if very linle of the focus, in the start box before crisscountry events on one has a right to terror at such a

off, it is all over. In luge, if you fall off, you still complete the course. These brief, through-the-keyhole glimpses of terror and finesse continued as the women's luge went into its first two runs. As yet, no single heroine has emerged to erase skyscraper-leaping suicides, we always wonder about the horror of second thoughts at 35th stores

Once you start, you are committed. Which brings us to the Martina Navratilova dictum. "Other players are involved," Martina once said. But I'm committed." The difference? "Like ham and eggs. The chicken is involved. The pig is

luge, that is just a question of marble-insufficiency, but the luge requires coldness of purpose as well as the hottest kind of courage. This is one of the great If tests in

anything except rubber.

is a moustache and a chin. He never

THE

pinched, concentrated faces before the start, all the Zen and the yoga and the positive visualisation that a person can muster in the face of half-aminute of immi-

verscale n shoot moment, but at least, when you are riding flat out over fences, if you fall

> ried out raminaed last

nyone can go gung-ho at the

These condom-clad warriors are

true heroes. They are mad, they are perfectly balanced, they do some-thing brief and perfect and then they vanish, never to be seen again. They never answer a magazine questionnaire, never date a Spice person, never model a suit made of All we ever see or know of Hackl

looks up. you see, that is his secret. Every time you look up, you slow down your tea-tray. Success comes from blind courage, faith, precision. touch, certainty, memory and desire. Hackl fired himself like a bullet through the rifling grooves of the course and then vanished. leaving only the memory of four brief flashes of heroism. And one definitive hero's remark. "I voss

Cold war erupts as ice men cometh

FROM ROB HUGHES

IF YOU can tell men by the class in which they fly, then Team USA and Team Canada, the ice bockey millionaires, are Olympians apart. The first move that Wayne Greizsky made in Nagano was to grab a hamburger at McDonald's in the Olympic Village; the greatest name in the sport showing where desire lies. He had no worries, the food there is free.

The mood, though, is not The first interlocking of the maple leaf with the Olympic rings was marked by dark instruction. Bob Clarke, the general manager of the Canada ice hockey team, used his first mass press conference to suggest that the gifted Paul

CUBLING

MEN: Preliminary round: Jainer 6 Sweden 5: Ceneda 17 United States 3: Switzerland 10 Great Britain 4: Norwey 7. Germany 5: Japan 6 Sweden 5. Ceneda 10 Great Britain 3: Sweden 7 Germany 6

WOMEN: Prefirmmery round: United States 3 Germany 5; Greet Britan 6 Norway 4 Sweden 5 Denmark 4; Canada 7 Japan

MEN: Proteinnery round: Group A: Ka-zadreson 4 Stovaka 3: Italy 5 Austria 2: (Kazadristan quality for champorehip round). Group B: Balanus 2 Japan 2: Germany 2 France 0 (Belanus quality for

ICE HOCKEY

Kariya, a Vancouver forward with Japanese descendants. had been deliberately put out of the tournament by an American opponent through what Clarke described as "cross-checking a player on the head to knock him out".

The perpetrator of this deed was Gary Suter, of the Chica-go Blackhawks, and Clarke said that the rules should have prevented Suter from making these Games while the player he hit is absent.

With the gamesmanship that North Americans play, though, it would be no surprise to see Kariya arriving from Vancouver in a couple of days. He missed the 18-hour flight in a specially chartered 747, sectioned into three compartments for the Canada

coaching team at the front, for the players in the centre and for a conference room to work out tactics at the rear. Notwithstanding that every

player earns more than \$1 million a year, the deal was



Gretzsky: star attraction

granted complimentary travel packages worth \$15,000 piece. This at an Olympics where, because of the depressed yen, the organisers had to renege on assisted passages for mere mortal Olympians in other sports. The United States, too, trav-

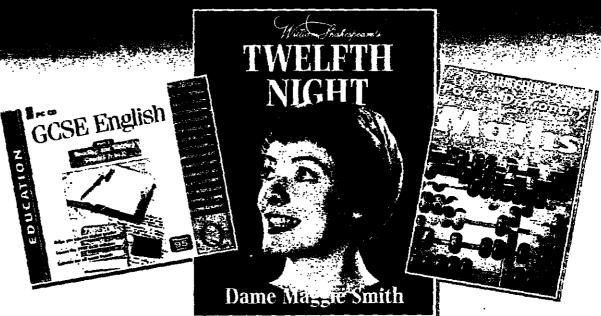
that their wives were also

elled in style; they even had an exercise bicycle aboard. At the press conference, though, Canada had something a little

The 400 journalists present were all attracted, like iron filings to a magnet, to Gretsky. "He may not be, at 37, the player he was," one of his col-leagues said, "but we're prepared to take 85 per cent of Gretsky for the moments of genius he can still produce."

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CHANGING TIMES

Executives

ICE SKATING PAIRS: Free programmer: 1. O Kesskows and A Dinitries (Russ) I Dischard placement; 2. Y Berechney and A Sidherdidzas Russ) 2 0; 3. M Woelzel and I Steutr (Gar) 30; 4. K Ina and J Dungjen (US) 40; 5. Sher) xus and Zhe Hongbio (China) 50; 6. S. Abipool and S. Bernadis (Fr) 60; 7, M Yelsova and A Bushkov (Russ) 70; 8, P Schwarz and M Mister (Ger) 80; 9, J Meno and T Sand (US) 90; 10; E Florento and M Shdok (Pris) 10; 11; D Zagorska and M Shdok (Pris) 11; D: 12; K Sargeanl and K Witz (Can) 12:0 Final overall positions; 1, Kazakova and Dramaly 15; 2, Berazharya and Sidhardidza 3 5; 3; Woelzel and Steda 40; 4, fina and Dungjen 60; 5, Shen and Hongto 9 0; 6, Ababoo and Bernade 95; 7, Yelsova and Bushkov 95; 6, Meno and Sand Steda Steda

LUGE WOMEN: Sim (classical): 1, 1, 1, Landina (Russ): 17min 37.8sec: Z. K. Neamennows (Co.) 1742.7; 3, B. Mantenen (Nor) 1749.4; 4, N. Genyikouk. (Russ): 1759.3; 5, O. Denlious. (Russ): 1759.3; 5, S. M. Millustopless. (Nor): 1758.3; 7, A. Moen-Guldon (Nor): 1808.0; 8, G. Paruzzo (fi): 1814.7; 70, B. Albrecht, (Switz): 18185; 11, I. Tererenko Terella (Liu): 18:17.2; 12, S. Belmondo (fi): 18:18.8.

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RESULTS AND DETAILS FROM NAGANO

SKIING

SNOW REPORTS Conditions Runs to Piste Off/p resort 50 95 good varied art sun -3 (Good skiing on all slapes: snow canons are working)

AUSTRIA Kitzbühel 7 90 fair varied art fine 8 (Best skiing on the upper slopes lower runs soit) 20 80 good varied fair sun (Good skiing in the area: softer plates) Sali - 92: 260 good varied good sun -2 (Mostly good sking at all levels, slightly heavy later). 80: 210 good varied worn sun 4 21/1 (Vary good sking on most pistes, stones appearing) 95: 235 good crusty good sun 2 (Very good sking continues at all levels) Flaine S Chevelier

90 170 good packed teir sun 526/1 (Wonderfull spring-like skiing a few worn spots low) 60 : 142 teir packed worn sun 320/1 (Good skiing on upper slopes lower wearing thin) AND
30 225 good varied good fine 3 24/1
(Good skiing on well prepared pistes softer pistes later)
20 120 good packed fair sun 2 8/2
(All pistes generally good and well prepared) Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial,

MEN: 500m (after final run)* 1, H Shericu (Japan) (35 75eec, 35 59) (min 11 35eec 2, J Wolfresspoon (Carl) (36,04, 35 90) 11184, S. K Overtand (Carl) (35 9, 36 06) 111.86; 4, S Bouchard (Carl) (35 9, 36 06) 112.00; 5, P Bouchard (Carl) (35 9, 36) 112.00; 6, C FitzFandolph (US) (35,81, 36,39) 112.20; 7, Kim Yoon-Man (S Kin) (36,13, 36,39) 112.20; 7, Kim Yoon-Man (S Kin) (36,13, 36,39) 112.65; 8, Lee Kun-Hyuk (S Kin) (36,14, 36,41) 112.55; 9, E lonetin (in) (36,30, 36,35) 112.65; 10, F Strom (Nor) (36,53, 36,55) 112.65; 11, M Kutaras (Garl) (36,55, 36 19) 1.12.75; 12, J Bos (Hoth) (36,66, 36,11) 1:12.77

SPEED SKATING

MEDALS TABLE TIMETABLE

All larges GMT
TODAY: Midnight and 1000: Women's professions yound curing, 6900; Men's professions yound curing, 6900; Men's profession yound curing, 6900; Men's profession touring 0000; Men's good of the season All times GMT

RACING AHEAD

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2.17 B

COL STREET

DANKER KURSE

Suny Bay given little respite in weighting game

By CHRIS MCGRATH

National's eccentric recent history has all been elaborately contrived by the sponsor's marketing team. Certainly, they can no longer rely on the publication of the weights to seize attention in the way it

There was a time, before some of the obstacles had their teeth removed, when the handicapper incorporated a special "Aintree factor" into his assessment of entries with previous National form. Nowadays, however, that unique extra burden seems to be shouldered by the race itself. days to get the horses from the paddock to the start. In 1993. the race did not start at all. As the handicap was unveiled

RICHARD EVANS Nap: Dawn Leader (4.05 Ascot)

With good ground and a likely strong pace in his favour, the highly regarded Dawn Leader can account for Grey Shot this Cheiteaham

NB: Bathe In Light (1.50 Wolverhampton)

yesterday — waiting definition by the trials of coming weeks - there was a sense that all Aintree wants on April 4 is a

Not much chance of that, thankfully, while Jenny Pitman is around to protest the pride of place that belongs to the horses themselves. The race's modern matriarch, who trains four of the 105 entries. knows that their bravery will always put the recent chaotic contributions of men into

That is why she is warning the Jockey Club not to show too prudish an interest in one of her own charges, Egypt Mill Prince, who is recovering from injury. If you smack the backside off a big old chaser

PERHAPS the Martell Grand who has been out for a long time, you'll have one race and the end of a career," she said.

Egypt Mill Prince is just inside the handicap on lost 21b. "A lot of people think he is a 212-mile horse, but I'm positive he'll stay. Unfortunately, Mudahim (10st 31b) got struck into at Ascot the other day and will miss the Racing Post Chase, but I don't think we'll have any problem get-

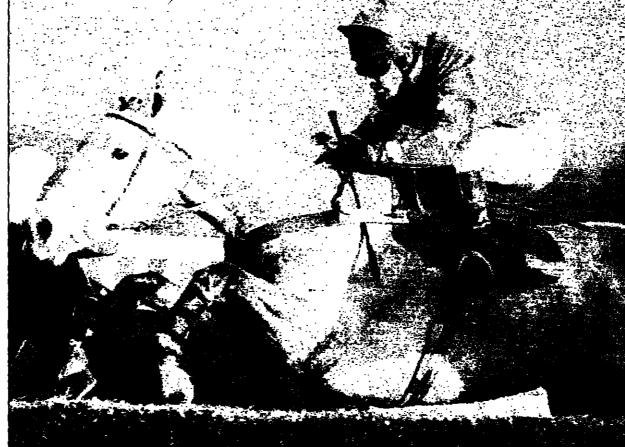
"I'm not sure why Nahthen Lad (10st 31b) ran like he did at Uttoxeter on Saturday, but he did run appallingly there once before. Not everything is black and white, although we're always expected to know what to tell the Jockey Club." Mrs Pitman. successful with Corbiere in 1983 and Royal Athlete three years ago, also has Amtrak Express on 9st 10lb. Coral gives her quartet a collective quote of 16-1.

Competition could come from her son. Mark, who hopes to saddle Superior Finish, previously a National third, as his first runner at Aintree. "I've a lot to live up to but I'm happy with the horse,"

The weights are headed on 12 stone by Suny Bay, runnerup to the sidelined Lord Gyllene last year and Coral's 14-1 favourite. Indomitable in the Hennessy Gold Cup, he has always been more fragile at home, and his trainer is evidently not having an easy say whether he will be able to

run," Charlie Brooks said.
"He has pulled a muscle in his hindquarters, and we have got to get him right. I'd like to think he can start cantering physio allow." If so, the Greenalls National Trial on February 28 may allow him to prepare for the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. Luckily, he goes well fresh.

The Tote's 14-1 favourite is Rough Quest, the 1996 winner, who has list 4lb. He did not



Suny Bay leads the handicap for the Martell Grand National, which was announced in London yesterday

inspire behind See More Business at Cheltenham last time, but Terry Casey reports him "bouncing". He added: "He ran a bit flat at Cheltenham, and I think we're yet to see the best of him this season."

Gordon Richards and Martin Pipe have entered no fewer than nine apiece, with Coral offering 14-1 and 12-1 respectively about their stables. Pipe nominated Cyborgo and Challenger Du Luc as "the two serious ones" but both will be aimed at the Gold Cup first. As for David Nicholson, he

spoke for many when asked how it would feel to win with any of his four entries. "There couldn't be enough brandy in

	GRAND NATIO	NAL HANDICAP	
9yrs, 12st 0tb 10-11-8 10-11-8 10-11-7 8-11-7 10-11-5 10-11-5 10-11-1 10-11-2 10-10-12 9-10-7 8-10-7 8-10-7 10-10-5	Tartan Tyraint	Gamwin 8-9-3 Gimme Five 11-9-3 River Lossie 9-9-2 Greenful Tare Away 10-9-1 Sir Peter Lely 11-9-1 Stombracker 9-9-0 Cariboo Gold 9-9-0 Linden's Lotto 9-9-0 Maracia Man 10-8-13 Turning Tirk 11-9-13 Christmas Gorde 12-8-11 Yeomen Werrior 11-8-13 Parsont Boy 9-8-11 Danger Baby 8-8-11 Evanger Baby 8-8-11	Do Rightly. Irish Starrap Indian Arrow 16 Febricatio 17 Pashto 18 Back Ber 10 Kandal Casaller 4 Andre Laval 5 Equity Player 15 Montpott 0 Dunit's Brook 6 Damas 7 Cholety Barra 10 Griffens Bar 10
9-10-5	Into The Red 14-9-7	Kadi 9-8-10	Thermal Westlor 10

Joe White Diweli Dencer Ung's Choice

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market **GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES** THE Grand National has been viewed by purcers as a lottery since the horse of that name won the first numbing of the world's most famous steeplechase back in 1839. However, while the myth remains, modifications to the famoes to make them easier mean that it is no longer true. one of the best ante-post betting races of lear. Two factors cause this. Amure drain etremely quickly, so the ground is rarely soft, which cuts out one of the main uncertainties of etting at this stage; with top class horses now betting at this stage; with top-class horses now attracted to the race, many entries are too far out of the hendicap to have a realistic chance, in spite of this the boolomakers, in a rare fit of generosity; offer 16-1 the field.

Two horses, CELTIC ABBEY and CYBORGO, stand out in the betting.

Celtic Abbey, a useful hunter chaset, joined Venetia Williams before least year's National, in which he jumped and travelled well until unassting Richard Johnson at The Chair. Celtic Abbeyshaped well on his first run this season when fourth to Sanjo at Cheltanham, before being unsulted by soft ground at Sandown lest peing unsulted by soft ground at Sandown last ime. Open to more improvement, it may well b that he comes to himself in the spring, and Coral's 40:1 quote will not last long. Cyborgo, a top class staying hurdler, has taken well to fences. His only defeat in five starts as a novice last season parite when eighth in the Gold Cup, and he lumped well when runner-up to See Wore Business back at Chellenham ten days ago. Likely as he aimed at the Gold Cup again, he has only 16 days to recover, but Martin Pipe is more likely then most to work the cratile and hie is over-priced at 20-1.

Going ideal for Senor El Betrutti

2.30: Warner For Players has been harshly punished for his fine run from out of the handicap at Warwick and would prefer easier going anyway. But his stablemate. Pleasure Shared, may show more back on ground that suits him, especially now he is tried blinkered. He showed smart form over course and distance as a novice. Though up 22lb this term. Gysart's form is solid and he could improve back on more lavourable ground. However, he did have a hard race last

Bell Staffboy seemed to respond to a visor at Doncaster, but his stable is enduring a poor run. Though fairly treated now, he has never won right-handed. Treasure Again also represents a yard going through a quiet spell, and is having his first run for over a gressive but could be thwarted by the faster ground.



BBCI

3.05: One Man is conforming

to his usual pattern, using up all his zip in the first part of the season. The tameness came carlier than usual this time, in the King George at Kempton. Senor El Betrutti was pulled up that day, held up to get the trip and sulking. Having run well here before, he can dominate on this more favourable ground. Strong Promise has run more than most over the past two seasons, but thrived in the process - including in

this race. Though limbering up for the Cheltenham Gold

Cup today, this may prove his

best trip, but will he be at his

peak after such a long ab-3.35: Strong Chairman has plenty of quality about him. is being trained patiently and will not mind fast ground. The Toiseach has prospects on the book after winning over this rrip, under a hig weight, at Doncaster last time. But the

ground looks against the form pick, Fiddling The Facts. CHRIS McGRATH

3.05 Strong Promise 3.35 Fiddling The Facts 1.30 Pealings 200 Ashwell Roy 4.05 Grey Shot ... 2.30 Three Farthings

Timekeeper's top rating: 4.05 GREY SHOT.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

		CINC PAINTIGES ARAIT IN INDICIOUS MAINT
		ff) (16 cumers)
01	1-43040	DEYMAR 18 (D.G.S) (T Ventey) D Gardolfo 8-11-10 Soptice Miles
02	P.13P52	EVER SMILE 55 (B.D.F.S) (D.L.Extrange) M Fign (1-11-9
83	29/400-	LIPROBLY 337 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs. E. Bousquet-Payne) Mrs. M. Jones 12-11-8 S. Hearts
84	3-11355	PEALINGS 46 (D,G) IG Habbard 6 Hubbard 6-10-13 L Comm
Ď5	PP21140	AMSI SOIT & 28 (D.G.S) (A-Men Partnership) 6 MeCourt 7-10-11 R Stocked
CS.	-240445	SHAHRANI 64 (D.F) (A Helassy & 5 Helassii M Pice 6-10-11 C Dustana
		TYMANN & CO.F.E. ST CARS P Browner M Proc 5-70-5

104 1244532 O'RIANN & (B.F.G.5) (Max P Browne, M Piger 5-179-5
108 10449-5 DAMERT BLANC & (B.D.5) (T Painseg), M Piger 5-179-5
109 4059-6 PRODEED 25: G Paramote J Gattori 6-10-1
100 PLANT STAND STAN

PETTING 6-1 Millimount, 7-1 Ever Smile, Dirason, Blate Of Scott, 8-1 Depticer, Presiding Proceeds "U-1 States 12-1 others

1997: FLYSNG FROOLER 6-10-2 P Hester (16-1) M.J. Richard: 13 car.

Seer Smile 3 and of 12 to Raine Field in clearing from a forces of the company from the compan

PEALINGS can show hi; form again now that the ground has dired up

2.00 CRISPIN NOVICES CHASE

19-1163 ASHNELL BOY 87 (D.F.G.S) (A 8 S Racing) ? Hotels 7-11-4 R Decisions of 24-11 (CASSY LAD 12 (D.G. M. Buckley) if Penderson 5-11-4 M A Proposal 122 (Decision 2-11-4 M M Millermont 118 (Decision 2-11-4 M M Millermont 118 (DAMPLEVE 5 (D.S) (D. Buckley) M Pape 5-10-3 A P MacCoy 123 SETTING: 10-11 Champion. 3-1 Astrono Sey, 7-2 Chary Lad. 10-1 The Land Agent. 1997 AMANCAD 6-11-4 P. Duswoody (11-10) Mrs A Ferret 2 co.

FORM FOCUS

Astronal Boy beater a distance 3m of 5 to Onese Of Species in nonce chase grade 2 at Cheberham (2nt. grad). Classy Lad beat firespay 14 in 8-names nonce chase at Concessor (an 110yd nood). The Land Agent 41 2nd of 5 to Reduction in names chase at Kempton (2nt. good to sail). Champtere beat Gipcy Gent 51 in 5-numes nonce chase at Linguistic (2nt. good to sail). CHAMPLEVE looks a good thing after his impressive chasing debat

2.30 SHENLEY ENTERPRISES HANDICAP HURDLE

Long handicage Bell Stationy 9-12. Three Fastlangs 9-7

SETTING, 7-4 Great, 9-4 Trice Fartings, 9-2 Watter For Players, 13-2 Set Saffory, 12-1 Tracket Agent, 14-1 Plasting Stated. 1997 HALF DEPRING 7-10-7 1 Jens 1944 bin N Talston-Cares 5 at

FORM FOCUS

System to 2nd of 10 to Tompetre in hardcap hards of 4scot (2m, soft). The some Agent bell in monance chase grade 2 of Log Soft; 3m, good to soft), previously needs 2nd of 17 to Pharasser of nounce chase of Riccessor (2m of 110m) good to soft), previously needs 2nd of 13 to Sharesser of nounce chase of Riccessor (2m of 110m) good to soft) whenever the pharasser (2m of 13 to Sharesser (2m of 10m) whenever the pharasser (2m of 13 to 13 t GYSART continued on the upgrade last time and can return to womany ways

BETTONE: 11-13 One Map, 5-4 Strong Promise, 11-2 Sense & Betroft 1907: STRONG PROMISE 6-11-7 N Williamson (10-1) G Huttard 4 120 FORM FOCUS

Chase grade 1 at Kengdon (Sm. 201) both Senton El Bernath (Sm. 201) both Senton (Sm. 201) both Senton (Sm. 201) both Senton (Sm. 201) both Senton (Sm. 20

SENDA EL BETRUTTI will be able to dominate and can cause a surprise

Reschard promber. Set-Spore horty p. — Mr. — wenner in ... - beauth ... - be

3.35 HSBC JAMES CAPEL REYNOLDSTOWN MOVICES BBC1 CHASE (Grade N: £18,840: 3m 110yd) (5 numers)

| 11-0715 | MANLER 27 (S.S.) (English Brahmeton Prics) N Prestine Omies 8-11-9 | C. Linvadyn |
11-0715 | STROMG CHARGMAN 75 (D.F.S.) (heat & Co. Us) P Next-use 7-11-9 | T. J. Merplay |
1202 | 1111-21 | STROMG CHARGMAN 75 (D.F.S.) (heat & Robort) N Next-use 7-11-7 | N.A. Filograph |
1203 | 4231-11 | FIRE JAG THE FAITS 47 (D.E.S.) (his & Robort) N Next-uses 7-11-7 | N.A. Filograph |
1204 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 1205 | 120 BETTING: 6-4 Fishing The Facts. 3-1 The Toterach, 7-2 Strong Chatenan. 6-1 Idenlegion, 7-1 Act Ol Faith. 16-1 Makier. 1997: DJEDDAH 6-11-12 A Kondrat (13-8 tar) F Dourses (Fr) 5 ran

Matter Sti Sti of 7 to Escartisfique in classe grade 2 at Wetherby (3m 14, soft), previously beat fiver Bay 281 in 6-numer nonece classe at Chelentern (2m 51, good to soft). Strong Chairmann beat Yahma 181 in 3-numer novice classe at Albertany 62, noon to soft). Fixing the Fracts beat Forest levy 61 in 6-numer novice classe grade 1 at Nempton (3m, soft). Act Of Faith 281 2at of 5 to Dr. Levil in nonece classe at Ascot (3m 110/4, and). Remitten (3m, soft) hat Of Faith 281 2at of 5 to Dr. Levil in novice classe at Forest (3m 2 110/4) good is soft). The Totsmach beat Reight's Crest (a) in 10-connec novice banding classe at Domiccles (3m, good)

STRONG CHARMAN will be happier on the ground than some of his mads

4.05 FERMANK MOVICES HURDLE (\$3,664: 2m 110yd) (9 namers)

17.10-11 DAYM LEADER 21 (D.F.E.S.) (Benezorke) J Chi 7-31-7 C. Livediya
12 SERY SHOT 32 (B.F.G.) (J. Sardy I Beitang 6-17-7 R. Datentocky
12 SERY SHOT 32 (B.F.G.) (J. Sardy I Beitang 6-17-7 R. Datentocky
13 ALMOND PROCK 15 (G. 17 Baser) L.S.) J Farstines 6-17-4 A. Datentocky
14 Datentomy
15 SERIEM 19 (G. The Carltones) & Heavier 6-17-4 Datentomy
15 SERIEM 19 (Mrs. J. Br.) Mrs. A Perset 19 Seriem 26 -17-4 Datentomy
16 TESSUE OF LES 22 (No Heavier Partnershop) J Analysis 5-17-4 G. Bradley
17 MURITIZER 16 (BF) (N. Nort) Mrs. J Cont. 1-11-4 M. Milliamona
18 SERIEM 19 Mrs. J Cont. 1 Seriem 19 Mrs. J Cont. 1 Mrs. J Cont

BETTING: 5-4 Grey Start, 6-4 Cown Leader, S-1 Bereiton; 10-1 Korg Keis, 14-1 Westitze, 20-1 Almond Rock, 50-1 General Assembly, Tissue Of Lies, 100-1 Algol's Honor 1997: COUPBAREL 5-11-7 C F Sean (6-1) M Page 10 cm

Dawn Leader best Hallstorm 11 in 13-tensor movice house at Hunimoton (2m 110pd, good in soil). Gay Shot 141 2ad of 8 in French Hotly to hundle grade 1 at Sandamo (2m 110pd, soil). Hotly so hundle grade 1 at Sandamo (2m 110pd, soil). The french Hotly in hundle grade 1 at Sandamo (2m 110pd, soil) previously 291 3rd of 14 pr found Racer in novice hundle at Kenghon (2m 15pd, good). Ganesal Assantialy 271 3rd of 9 in Montagat As in novice hundle at Windson (2m 4t, good). Tissue Of Lies 691 9th of 14 to Island Racer in conce hundle at Kenghon (2m 110pd, good). Tissue Of Lies 691 9th of 14 to Island in novice hundle at Kenghon (2m 10pd, good). Tissue Of Lies 691 9th of 14 to Island in novice hundle at Kenghon (2m 10pd, good) with Alpa's Honor (levels) lett.

GREY SHOT is a group winner on the Flat and should hold Dates Leader

4.35 ASCOT STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (\$2,453: 2m 110yd) (25 russess)

BETTING: 15-8 Indian Spring, 6-1 Justice Algore, 8-1 Unifor The Corpor, Venture, Saffor, 18-1 Bosonic Male, Mil Chataca, Till And Torm, 12-1 others 1907: MESTER ERMIN 4-10-7 S Horpes (2-1 p-lan) (Madagan Hall & on)

indian Spring hoat The Probled Dute 16t or 11-runer Mrt Bat cach at Haydook (2m. soft) happine Foundation beaten a distinct list of 12 to C Est. Moi Laurel in NH Rat race at Ledow (2m. self). Rolweniven 601 14th of 18 in Let of The Piese in NH Hat cach at Deceasing (2m. 110) of good). Entiry Massier 55: 17th of 18 in Pieses Hand in NH Rat race at Deceasing (2m. 110) ogod). One Piese Massier as distance text of 15 to Brossney Bay on 14th Ital race at Utionster (2m. 110) ogod to soft). The Bandwighon Fox 531 15th of 22 to Mr Marce Man in 14th Rat race at Chellentram (2m. 110) of good to Smit. The Course 551 13th of 14 to Insh Banker in NH Rat race at Chellentram (2m. 110) of, good to Smit. The Course 551 13th of 14 to Insh Banker in NH Rat race at Chellentram (2m. 110) of, good to Smit. Smith Sm

INDIAN SPRING is taken to dely a prenally for his Haydock was

COURSE SPECIALISTS 236 A P MeCoy 231 B Dumody 222 N Valiances 220 P Holler 182 M A Fitzgesto 17.E C Lieutopo 93 758 114 202 53 189 27 143 172 143 155 121

Sethe in Light 2.20 ITALIAN SYMPHONY Rockswain. 4.25 I'm Tel. GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE 1.50 NENE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDER STAKES

(£2,762: 1m 4f) (9 runners) 1 597 (ACATORISC 201) (8F) Fi Ancien 5-9-2 24-0 (AROMA) 37 (8F) Di Messey Smito 5-9-2 30-44 (AROMA) 37 (8F) Di Messey Smito 5-9-2 40-3 (AROMA) 37 (8F) Di Messey Smito 5-9-2 40-3 (AROMA) 37 (8F) Di Messey 5-9-2 50-3 (AROMA) 30 (AROMA) 30 (AROMA) 30 (AROMA) 31 (AROM 4-5 Basho in Ugisi, 6-1 Specializo, 7-1 Penie Civin, 8-1 Mattail, 15-1 Yanshirol Lato Aria, 33-1 Katalenic, Liffe Consor, Who Deell

2.20 SEVERN CLAUNING LIMITED STAKES

2,316: 61) (6) 1 S25- PALD BLANCO 79 (D.F.E.S) 6 L Moure 7-8-18 Candy Migris 7 2 -182 THEATRE MARKE 14 (C) D Stars 5-8-12 3 S212 FEATHERSTONE LANE 7 (SF.C.F) Mars L Stoom 7-8-10 Count McClaren 2 4 06-2 ITALIAN STAPPINEY 4 (V,CD) P Suns 4-8-18

3-1 Kalian Symphony, 7-2 Palo Bianco, 4-1 (District Magic, 5-1 Feditoristics Line 7-1 C-Parry, Ulica Book, 20-1 Islan Casted, Sir Tagler.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAMERS: (and Hestingdon, 2) whomas from 91 manners, 23.1%; 56 Johnston, 55 from 251, 21.9%; P Felgain, B lean 40, 20.00%; P Hanlant, 37 from 293, 18.2%; R Genst, 9 from 51, 17.6%. JOCKEYS: D Senacey, 14 witners look 78 date, 18.4%, D Holland, 23 term 132, 17.4%, Date O'Nard, 11 from 73, 15.1%, 5 Carter, 32 took 227, 14.1%, D Harrison, 22 from 157, 14.0%.

2.50 TYNE HANDICAP (#3,371: 1m 100yd) (6) 6 Partie (6) 4 6 Partie (6) 4 6 Okov SEBALA 2861 (D.F.S.S.) 13 Office 7.8-16 C Louther (3) 5 11-6 Plan Fox Partie 3-1 Contractions Plan. 4-1 Common Box. 8-2 Comm's Pagent. 20-1 Barter Briggs, 25-1 Septs. 3.25 THAMES HANDICAP (£3,388: 1m 4f) (7) 1 118. MONTECRISTO-RE (BF.CDLF.G.B) R Seet 5-10-5
A MACDATE (S) 6
2 2-5-5 MONTECRISTO-RE (BC.D.F.G.B) R Seet 5-10-5
A MACDATE (S) 6
3 20-6 SLGA HAVEN 10 (C.D.F.G.B. 6-80-5
5 COMM - BELLET-BOY 9 (G.B. 1) Felton 6-8-2
5 COMM - BELLET-BOY 9 (G.B. 1) Felton 6-8-5
5 COMM - BELLET-BOY 9 (G.B. 1) Felton 6-8-5
6 3-63 SORIET (THE VIOLET 19 M Res 4-7-10
7 DO-6 SWONFORD CHARMEN 5 J) Helton 14-10
A Micholis (7) 7 8-4 Monatechile, 5-2 Song Hank, 3-1 Micha's Star, 12-1 Sidney The Kiriney, 14-1 Bellet's Bay, 20-1 Juck This Lad, 33-1 Swynioid Chapman. 3.55 WELLAND SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0: £1,738: 51) (12) 3-Y-U; £7,738; 3f) [1/2]

1 0-11 GRANGE RUSH 7 (C,D) M Woring 9-5 D Holmod 10
2 5-52 (SXY MPRSKY 7 (R,CD); 5) / (Royy 9-5 C Lowdher (S) 2
3 -62 ROCKSHAM 7 (CD) P Huston 9-5 L Cramber (S) 2
4 0-38 FMFF DOMBOD N (Y,D,S) M Chris 9-0 Dune O'Red 9
5 -512 MMS DANGEDOUS 7 (CD) M Gluin 9-0 Dune O'Red 9
5 -522 MMS DANGEDOUS 7 (CD) M Gluin 9-0 D M William 7
6 -222 DAMBE TRUES 18 (V), K hory 3-12 Main Dayer 8
7 -400 - ANNO LAY 128 E Dayer 9-7 D M William 7
1 40 - MANNO LAY 128 E Dayer 9-7 D M William 7
9 -59-0 LAUF EMBOL 7 MES 1 Case 8-7 N William 7
10 - SARLE CLORK 117 11 Harts 8-7 J Gulton 12
11 6-43 SMS FMF ME 7 R MSRichard 8-7 A McCarby (S) 11
12 6-45 TLORGE 7 Ms y Moraley 8-7 P McCarbe (S) 7
14 Charms Both. 4-1 Rush Whisis, 8-1 Rockswint, 7-1 Mes Dangetons, 8-1

Coome Hill out for season

COOME HILL who was being aimed at both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and Grand National, has been ruled out for the rest of the season. However, his trainer, Walter Dennis, is confident that the nine-year-old, winner of the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury in 1996, will

make a full recovery. "He has got a bit of heat in 2 leg," the Bude permit bolder said. "It's a minor thing but it could become major if we pursue it. It is very disagpointing as he was coming on so well after his wind operation. But if we stop now he'll

Coome Hill finished third in a handicap at Cheltenham on his reappearance last November, but has not been seen out since he was pulled up at. Newbury later in the mouth-when bidding to for a repeat. Hennessy victory.



4.25 AVON HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,436: 71) (7) <u>Pick up the phone</u> FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$25 or more using Switch, Delta or Solo bank or building society debit cards. 3 miles, Ascot 3.35pm, Live on BBC TV, 13/8 Fiddling The Facts 10/3 The Toiseach

7/2 Strong Chairman 6/1 Kilmington 13/2 Act Of Faith 16/1 Mahler LICENT DOOR OF WHEE AND TO TEXT-Mercon CHAMPING



TENNIS

Becker offers Henman a brief glimpse of greatness

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN DUBAI

three first-round losses - life is not treating Tim Henman well at the moment. Last night, he was removed swiftly, efficiently and ruthlessly by Boris Becker 7-5, 6-0 in a match that showed just how big the gap is between those who dream of greatness and those who have already achieved it.

These days, Becker has more things on his mind than winning tennis matches. He is the head coach of the German Davis Cup squad, he runs his own training camp, working with young hopefuls aiming to follow his footsteps, and he gets on with the business of being a husband and father. Indeed, being a role model seems to be a full-time job and the master even had a few words of wisdom for Henman.

"He has to earn his victories, there are no presents on the ATP Tour," Becker looking fit, happy and re-laxed, said. "Henman is a great player with a lot of potential, but, regardless of what happened tonight, and there are matches like that, he will become stronger, but only if he learns from it. I knew he wasn't playing his best tennis coming here and I always felt I had a chance."

Becker was certainly in fine fettle coming into the tournament. Training with the juniors, he claimed, keeps him young. "I have to keep up with them if I am to teach them anything," he said. Seven years younger and 40 places above him in the rankings. Henman was hardpushed to keep Becker in sight, much less keep pace with him.

Becker's life was made considerably easier when Henman, struggling to get his first service in play, failed to capitalise when he did manage a good delivery. He presented Becker with the lead after having the German on the run only to smash a simple overhead into the bottom of the net. Still, for a while, luck was on Henman's side. Becker promptly lost his own service to love thanks to a

couple of double faults. Then, however, Becker simply twiddled with the fine tuning and did not concede another point on his own service for the rest of the set and only let Henman claim a further three in

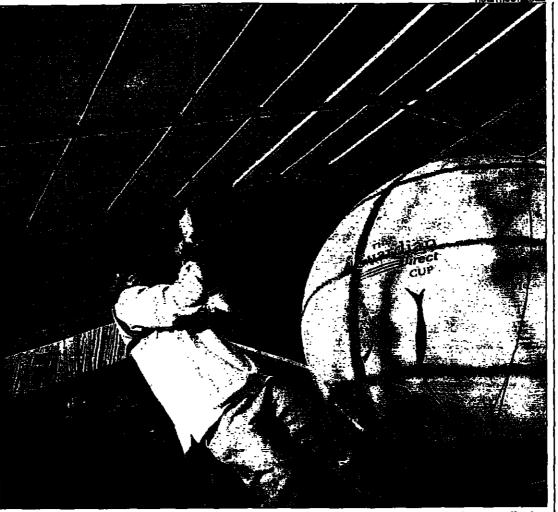
FOUR weeks, three tournaments and the whole match. He seemed to have all the time in the world, while Henman was running flat out just to stand still. The mere sight of Becker coming forward distracted Henman so much that every attempted pass or volley was planted into the net, while the pace of shots from the baseline left Henman struggling to control the

> As Becker warmed up the various areas of his game — first the service, then the volley and finally the returns - he moved into another gear and eased away from the floundering Henman. From 5-5 in the first set, the Great Britain No 2 was on a hiding to nothing. "It was a case of him raising his game and me dropping a little," Henman said. "It's a confidence thing and I don't have a great deal of confidence at the moment. It's something I have to work on." With luck, playing doubles with his conqueror might do the trick.

At least Henman was not alone in having a bad day at the office. Marcelo Rios, the No 2 seed, was sent packing by Brett Steven, of New Zealand, 6-3, 6-3. Throughout his passage to the final at the Australian Open, Rios had been telling all who cared to listen that he was a reformed character - no longer one to throw away matches, this was a new Rios with spirit and fight. Then he froze in the final and was blown away by Petr Korda. He was back to his old ways last night, and was soon struggling against Steven, the world No 50.

Sergi Bruguera's run was brought to a swift end by Jeff Tarrango 6-3, 6-3. Tarrango is, without doubt a talented player, but he is better known as the man who stormed around Wimbledon three years ago. Unfortunately for him, he believes his own publicity and has spent rather more time playing the part of Jeff Tarrango than that of a serious tennis player. It did not matter that much yesterday against a listless Bruguera, who never looked likely to live up to his billing as the No 5 seed. Jonas Bjorkman, the top seed, eased into the second round with a simple 6-1, 6-3 victory over David Nainkin, a qualifier, of South Africa.

Results, page 36



Rusedski helps out in putting the finishing touches to the temporary indoor arena at Battersea Park

Rusedski mans home front

reg Rusedski always enjoys playing tennis in Britain, but the world No 8 will particularly enjoy playing at Battersea Park in two weeks because it is barely a ten-minute walk from his Chelsea

Rusedksi frequently trains on the athletics track or on the grass in the park, alongside the River Thames. and from February 23 to March I he will be taking part in the first ATP Tour indoor event in this country for seven years. He said: "It is exciting for London to have this tournament But it is especially exciting for me because I can walk to the arena

across Chelsea Bridge."
Rusedksi will be looking for revenge over Goran Ivanisevic, who has beaten him in seven successive matches, including the final of the Croatia Open last weekend. "The last time we played in Britain was at Queen's Club in June, when he beat me 20-18 in the tie-break. If I play Goran at Battersea Park, the crown would be on my side and that could make a big difference.
"A home crowd can help you to

win one or two extra points at vital times during a match. They can really lift you with their support." The Guardian Direct tournament, John Goodbody on the arrival of the first

ATP Tour indoor event in

Britain for seven years

with prize-money of about £500,000, comes at an intriguing time for British tennis. The popularity of the game and the success of Rusedski and Tim Henman, who has also entered the tournament, have persuaded the organisers to bring the ATP circus back to town. They have attracted ten of the top

20 ranked players, including Pat Rafter, who beat Rusedski in the final of the US Open last year, Petr Korda, who recently won the Australian Open, Richard Krajicek, the former Wimbledon champion, and Cedric Pioline, the losing Wimble-

don finalist in 1997. Rusedski said: "There is such a good field that ten or 15 players could win this event. There are so many dark horses." Rusedski will train this week in London and then go to Antwerp for an indoor tourna before returning for the Guardian

the BBC, will take place inside a purpose-built temporary arena of 11,000 square metres housing 5,000 seats and extensive corporate hospitality facilities: 20,000 of the total of 55,000 places for the seven days have already been sold.

"Last week was a step forward for me, particularly in hitting my re-turns," Rusedski said. "My ground shots were more aggressive. I also got a total of 87 aces."

He also believes that the power and speed of his service continues to improve. In Zagreb last year he was being timed at 140mph. This year it was l42.5mph.

owever, he emphasised that what he was particularly wanted was accuracy. "I you can get the service into the corners at 131mph or above, it is almost impossible for your opponent to get the ball back," he said. Rusedski said that the hardest part of being in the top ten in the world

rankings is staying there. He pointed out that Stefan Edberg, of Sweden. who was coached by Tony Pickard. Rusedski's mentor, stayed in that top ten for ten years. This is a target that the British No 1 has set himself. SAILING

Damaged mast extinguishes Silk Cut hopes

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

LAWRIE SMITH, of Great Britain, and his crew aboard Silk Cut saw what remaining hopes they had of winning the Whitbread Round the World Race evaporate in one second yesterday, , when their mast came crashing down as the boat surfed through the Southern Ocean at breakneck speed 2,000 miles west of Cape Horn.

Silk Cut was in third place for the leg, 34 miles behind the leader, EF Language, skippered by Paul Cayard, when there was a sudden noise as the aluminium mast snapped just above the second set of spreaders. According to a report from Smith, the accident happened when the boat was running under masthead spinnaker in 28 to 30 knots of

"There was a bang out of nowhere and, as the guys on deck looked up, they saw the mast break above the second spreaders," Smith said.

Smith added that no one was hurt and said that the crew had recovered the broken section of mast and was assembling a jury rig. "We are assessing options at the mo-ment," he said. "We intend to sail under jury rig to Ushuaia. in the Beagle Channel, pick up diesel and motor north, per-haps all the way to São Sebastião to step the new rig." Last night Silk Cut was making just 3.9 knots as the five

leading yachts continued at

world-record pace, averaging

speeds of 17-19 knots.
The failure of Silk Cut's rig followed earlier problems with tears in the mainsail after the boat briefly took the lead on Saturday. Repairs had been completed and Smith was just beginning to haul himself back into the frame. Then, hours before the rig collapsed, Silk Cut collided with a lump of ice, which tore a deep gash in the hull on the

starboard side.

The rig failure effectively brings Smith's troubled campaign - his third attempt as skipper to win the Whitbread - to an end. Silk Cut will be stuck in seventh place overall at the end of this leg, with

more than half the race run. and with even a third-place finish a tall order.

Silk Cut left the Solent in September as many people's favourite for overall honours. but the campaign did not live up to expectations. Two fourths in the first two legs were followed by a sixth and seventh in legs three and four. demoting Smith to seventh place overall by Auckland, a position from which a race

vin was unlikely. No doubt there will be a long look at what went wrong. in view of Smith's intention to lead the Spirit of Britain syndicate as director of sailing at the America's Cup in 2000. Smith is convinced that Silk Cut is not slow relative to the competition. However, there were problems with decisionmaking that eventually led to the replacement of Steve

DETAILS

FIFTH LEG: (Auckland to Såo Sebestiälo): Positions (at 1800GMT, with miles to Såo Sebestialo): 1, EF Lenguage (Swe) 3,877.2: 2, Swedish Mejch (Swe) 3,996.4; 3, Merit Cup (Monaco): 3,924.3, 4, Toshiba (US) 3,976.4; 6. Chessie Rading (LIS): 4,001.1: 7, Sik Cut (GB) 4,032.7; 8, BrunelSunerry (Hol): 4,045.3, 9, EF Education (Swe): 4,65.7

Hayles, the boat's navigator. with Vincent Geake. Smith's former colleague from

Silk Cut may not be the last boat to encounter trouble on this leg. The strong down-wind conditions are set to continue for several more days and, with the fleet on the southern edge of the so-called "Screaming Fifties", collisions with icebergs and smaller lumps of ice are a constant

Cayard is managing to hold on, with Gunnar Krantz, on Swedish Match. 15 miles behind in second place. In the middle of the fleet, Knut Frostad, on Innovation Kvaerner, is still improving and is up to fifth place, around 79 miles behind EF Language. Frostad yesterday described the conditions as "scary -- very, very scary."

0-0

hog3

Qq7

Warwick

THUNDERER

GOMS: GOOD

4

Carl Evans: 4.15 Busman.

HUROLE (81 721 2m) (20 numbers)

Going good

1.50 (2m India 1, UPGRADE (C Uesedim 3-1 tax), 2. Altressam (R Durwood), 10-1)

3. Kibnote Lad (R Thomson 4-1), ALSO
RAN 7-2 (Include Me Out, Teschald 6 Cozen kene (4th 16 Ranc Lindy (6th), Tellopa, Time Project 50 Carles Ouers (6th), Cavally Dre Predimmass in Lisman Mashwan (h 66 Arc 100 Amia in Wates, Brit Rose, Biograd-Descript Causal Cotago, Cast Lazanis, Rumbo Tango, Sar Adulf, 21 ran NR French 15-19, 11 to 1, 15 1 N Fandar-Daves at Carles carrier 15 to 24 40, 51 80, 63 20, 60 10 0 Pf CB 50 0 CSF, 637 20

LUDLOW

1.40 Among Islands, 2.10 Landed Gentry, 2.40 Theme Arena, 3.15 Even Blue, 3.45 Florentino, 4.15 Busman, 4.45 Hailstorm.

1.40 CHURCH STRETTON SELLING HANDICAP

1 (1870) AMENIC ISLANDES 20 (8F CO 5) 7 (ex) 7-11-10

Ser S Durack (5) 107

1 032 - MIVA S BOOK 534 (SF ID F) 707 (1 % "acrost 7-11-1")

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ACCINE MONIMERS OF MARCH 4 (MARCH 2 (MA

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11 a Banico Duri TC Universativa et 1927 Licens Gerry, Est John Man 6-5 Hand Benes, 1201 Heisbinder, 14-1 Enst Havest, 23-1 schen

2.10 BRIDGHORTH NOVICES CHASE

(22,762 3m. :12)

2.20 (2m 41 110yd ch) 1, ASK THE BUTLER (A P McCoy, 11-4), 2, Sir Dente ID Bridgester, 4-11 3, Step On Byre (R Durwcody 7-1), ALSO RAN 5-2 av Supreme Lady 5 Sesamo Seed, 7 Cool Gurner (Alth, 25 Debrid, 33 Super Richard (5th), 50 Floriess Guy, Joo's Britiday, Steed Trade, 66 Night Fenroy (6th), 100 Car You Just 13 ran 1), 34, Jack, 9, 7 M Poe at Welmoton Tote 23 70; 21 10, 21 90, 22 50 DF 511 00 Thor 521 90 CSF 514 64

Potter Agam, 10 Wisley Warrior, 16 Gentson Friendly, King Paddy, 20 Bilings-gate (5th), Filscol Leth, MacJeo, 25 Garothson (5th), 22 Broughton Blazo, 50 Bingley Bank, Jevington, Roscome, The Ten Amigue, 56 Brymar Lass, Catherine's Way, Pure Senng, 100 Diamond Leader, Eagle Storm (f), Just Bayard 23 Jan, Niff Knock Leader, 91, 44, 77, 41, 11-1 J Old at Wroughton, Tote 25, 50, 51 60, 51 80, 51 90 DF 58 40 Tho 518 70, CSS 57 18

Jackpot £104.90. Placepot £12.50.

142 Or 180 1408U CSF E23 76 2.49 (2m 41 130d field) 1, Brother Of lits (P Nero, 7-1) 2, Healds (10-1) 3, Sport Of Steel 12-11 Forware Noble 11-10 fav 18 am 21, -1 Mrs M Reveley, Tota £12 50, £3.50, £3.00, £4.30 DF £55 40 Tota £196 80, £35. £75 11

100. (195. (1) C. 1. 184 a. (1) C. 20. (1) C

Lingfield Park

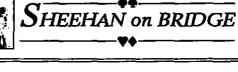
Going: slow 200 (1m) 1, Robellion (Dane C'Neil, 11-8 tes) 2 Amono (11-9; 3, Mutain of the (7-2) 5 cm Shibl shibl Mrs 1, Subbo Total (1-70; 5120, 52 to 05: 12-30 CSF 15-28 C120, E2 to DF: 12:20 C5-15:28

220 (1m 25), Denoing Rio (C Lowdrer, 10-11 fay); 2 Emperors Gold (5-2); 3, Kente's Gracker (14-1) for an 2, 17-1, 22 Fr. Hossiem foot: C1-90; C1-30, C1-10, C2-70 DF: 12:70 Tere 12:80 C5F: 20-14

200 (1m 25), 1, Securitalist Stanly (D Holland, 7-2); 2, Whate Plants (5-4 fan), 3, Her Program (12-1) 8 rain 9, 17-1 C Cytes C5-60; 20 D, C1-10 DF C380, C5F C7-77.

200 (88), 1, Red Planter (5-Whateoth, 15-8)

1777.
3.30 (6) 1. Red Pepper (S Whiteorth, 15-8 tayl; 2. Sandrag King (2-1) 3. Chrose (5-1) 5 rar: S. 61. P. Howing Tote (2:20; C) 10. C) 10 DF (2:30 CS): 25-88 4,00 (2m) 1. Sheetir (M Henry, 3-1) 2. Broughtons Footmule (2-1 fav); 3. Distant Shorn (5-1), 8 ran 18-1341 J Hills. Tote. 25-40: 21-40, 51-30, 52-40. DF, 25-70. CSF-29-62. Tecast (230.0).
4.30 (5) 1. Marcolo (D Holland, 5-1), 2. Rameey Hope (11-2), 3. Ancidate (5-1) Mystical 2-1 fav 9 ran 5, 31 D Lodge (5-1) Mystical 2-1 fav 9 ran 5, 31 D Lodge (5-1) CSF-22-22 T-22-24 Tricast (139-33. Placepoot (3440 Custost (139-30. D). spot 28.30. | C. A rubber collector

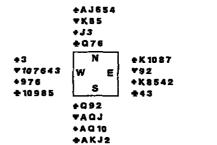


By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

I analysed this question from the Christmas competition on Saturday: what is the best play to make four tricks from this suit combination?

By remorseless logic I demonstrated that the best play by 2.8%

was to lead the queen on the first round of the suit. So how would you play this hand in Six No-Trumps? Cover up the East-West hands if you are feeling conscientious. Rubber bridge **+AJ654**



A possible sequence would be make a decision on the dia-Two Clubs - Two Spades - Two No-Trumps - Six No-Trumps. The spade suit is the one we've just been discussing. But re-member to play the whole hand, not just one suit. If you run the queen and West wins with the king, you will have to put the ace on if he returns a diamond — after all, a 3-2 spade break is more likely than the diamond king being onside. So all of your winning chances are in the spade suit. which as readers of the Weekend article will know is all the 3-2 breaks and five of the ten possible 4-1 breaks.

a spade towards the queen, possibilities), and in addition you make the contract if West has Kl0xx of spades and the king of diamonds - you will find out before you have to

mond suit that the spades are not behaving. Thus the additional chances are singleton three, seven or eight of spades with West and the king of diamonds with East, approximately one and a half of the ten 4-1 breaks, so this ap-proach succeeds against five and a half 4-1 breaks in all. Hence it is a better chance than picking up five 4-1 breaks by leading the queen. Unimportant for practical play, but aesthetically satisfying. ☐ The Times Book of Bridge 1.

a compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B.T. Batsford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus £) postage and packing).

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

AND WATCHING THE STATE OF THE S

By Philip Howard

GHOLAM a. A spook b. An ornamental bullrush c. A messenger

CAUCHERO a. A cowboy b. A Walter Mitty

CORNICHE a. An ice cream b. An architectural moulding c. A coastal road

FARFEL a. Ground needles



15 Rae1

16 g4

18 Kg2 19 dxe5

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Karpov's problems

Today's game from the elite tournament at Wijk aan Zee in Holland was typical of the problems suffered by Anatoly Karpov, the Fide champion, in the wake of retaining his World Chess Federation title. Many critics expressed the view that the ultimate challenger for the Fide title (who happened to be Anand) would be exhausted by numerous qualifying bouts, while the defending champion himself (Karpov) would have the ad-

vantage of being utterly fresh, having only to wait for his challenger in the final stage. A further criticism levelled against the Fide format was that there was vitrually no break for recuperation between the qualifying rounds at Groningen and the final

shoot-out in Lausanne. Karpov's supporters and de-fenders of the Fide system had hoped for a good result by Karpov in Wijk aan Zee. In fact, after today's game Karpov had lost twice with no wins and only a final spurt brought him up to 50 per cent.

White: Veselin Topalov Black: Anatoly Karpov Wijk aan Zee January 1998

Oueen's Gambit Declined

3 Ne3 Be7 5 B14 6 Qc2 **e3** B15 10 Bd3 Bxd3 11 Oxd3 Na6 12 Nge2

21 R17 Ah1 B#8 23 gxf5 24 Qd1 25 No4 27 Ah3 Roh1 Bg7 Nf8 30 Nce2 NB Qb4 32 Rg3 33 Nh4 34 Nc3 Qt5 42 Nt3 kgз 45 Nt6+ ජෙ Bg7 Pan7 Black resigns 50 Fth8+

Diagram of final position

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

المكذا من الأصل

2.40 HENLEY HALL GOLD CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (F2.827: Cm 5) (10vd) (11) 11231 MASS RESERTO 18F (G.S) - 0 CHA 5-12-0

3-1 Mass Regions, 3-2 Cook Spring, 5-1 Courtaguay, Frenchart Rose, 9-1 others.

TRANSPORT IN MANCHMAN 13 withers from 25 papers 45.4%. O Richolman 16 kmm 56.26.6%, R.Curin, S.Coom 19.26.3%, M.Pige, 22 Born 89.24.7%, S.Brockskom, J. Iron 54.21.4%,

JOCKEYS, No. 8, 1666; 1, network from 10 rides, 30 0%, 3 F Triey 7 from 30, 25 3% C March 7 from 37, 21 2% 3 Lower 5 from 16, 20 0% D 3 Basched, 4 from 23, 17, 4%

11231 MSS ROBERTO 18F (0.5) - 0.024 5-12-2

127 QUESTADUAY 77 (0F.5) - 36.007 6-13-7

1 31 COOL SPRING 58 (G) F 23-7 6-11-2

1 31 COOL SPRING 58 (G) F 23-7 6-11-2

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1 31 COOL SPRING 58 (G) F 23-7 7-12-3

1 31 COOL SPRING 58 (G) F 23-7 7-12-3

1 31 COOL **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

2.50 (2m 4f 110yd hafe) 1. ARMLEY ROYAL (G Bradley, 11-8 fav); 2. King's Banker (M A Fitzgerald, 4-1) 3. Sursum Corda (R Dunwoody, 4-1) ALSO RAN 6-1

3.20 Gm Sf cht 1, A N C EXPRESS (A P McCoy, 11-8 fav), 2, Andre Leval (N Williamson, 6-1), 3, Kurar (A Germy, 6-1) ALSO RAN 9-2 Bendor Mark, 13 Nazzaro, 7 Full Of Oats (5th), 16 Oh So Handy (4th). 3.15 ATTWOOD MEMORIAL TROPHY HANDICAP

13733 ART PRINCE 27 67.6.5) C Bronic 8-12-0 M Berry (7) 117
2-4-3 EPEN BLIE 53 (0.5) Mirc Blach 10-11-10 S Tryone 120
3 111 MERIUMS LAD 646 67.6.5) I Farste 9-11-5 W Marsins 1-40311 MR STRONG GALE 57 (0.6) G Practic 7-10-11. A floreton 120
5-622 RAPPARK LAD 61 (F.G.S.) Mirchaelanes 9-10-10 C Marsin 126
5-1323 MORTS 807 16 (0.7.6.5.1) Bendey 6-10-5 Radonson 120
5-32.9 YOUNG BALORG 47 (9) Mir J Parsan 11-10-0 D Leaby -3-1 Un Strong Gare 4-1 Meson a Lad 5-1 Even Blue 11-2 Jacon a Boy, 6-1 Ac. Prince Pragnack Lad 10-1 Yearsy Subbru.

3.45 PETER STEPHENSON MAIDEN HURDLE (£2 654 2m) (18)

2 000 BUY MY PLY 27 H High 5-11-8

2 CORDINAL ROBORT 2577 C Molech 5-11-8

3 O RUPERTWO 60 My; V Word 5-11-8

4 O GREAT WOLF 79 T Wait 5-11-8

5 223 IMMUS 51-69 D Nucherlor 5-11-8

6 005 PORTOCK CASTLE 99 P Richers 5-11-8

5 Fox PRIVATE AUDITORS 40F W Mar 5-11-8

10 SERENBERTY 78 (8F) M Prec 5-11-8

10 SERENBERTY 78 (8F) M Prec 5-11-8

10 FSO CERN 15 A Easter 5-11-6

11 FOR CHARPAGINE FROM 37 O O Neo 7-11-3

12 GO CERN 15 A Easter 5-11-1

13 ON THE GREEK 147 B Preces 5-11-3

14 ON THE GREEK 147 B Preces 5-11-3

15 A SARRY TEMPER 1 1/1 M Instruction 5-11-3

16 A SARRY TEMPER 1 1/1 M Instruction 5-11-3

17 364 MASTERLEE 41 (R) M Prec 4-10-7

18 O THE OHLANT 2 SO Stemmod 4-10-7

19 A MASTERLEE 41 (R) M Prec 4-10-7

11-4 Lanux 1-2 Secretion), 5-1 Scarce 6-1 Starp Temper 16-1 Reception 12-1

11-4 Lanux 1-2 Secretion), 5-1 Scarce 6-1 Starp Temper 16-1 Reception 12-1

12 Lanux 1-2 Secretion), 5-1 Scarce 6-1 Starp Temper 16-1 Reception 12-1

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11-4 tyrus: 7-2 Secretology, S-1 Scarcts: 6-1 Starp Temper: 16-1 Floresino, 12-1 The in-Lains: 14-1 Private Audience: 16-1 priess 4.15 PONTRILAS HUNTERS CHASE (Amaleurs: \$1,203: 2m 4f) (12) 1 345- SEAU BASKLARD 277 (B.O.S) 2 Notices 11-12-7

1 345 SEAN BANKLAND 277 (B.D.S) 7 https://distriction.com/ 2 266 CARACH BRODE 261 (F.G.S) I Asses 11-12-7 https://distriction.com/ 3 01-P MY NOMBREE 177 (B.C.D.F.G.S) DE Nichels 11-12-4 https://distriction.com/ 4 13-P BUSMAN 17P (D.F.S) F Peace 9-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 5 27P DULAMETRE 275 (G.S.M & Sear; 11-12-0 htt in Management (7) 90 6 PPP HIGHWAY FIVE 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL 288 (G.S.M.C.S. S Brooke 10-12-0 https://distriction.com/ 2 PPP MICHAEL

4.45 WHISTANSTOW NOVICES HURBLE (£2,500: 2m 5i 110yd) (18) G Hogan (3) This 112

3-1 Beau Bab-Rad. 4-1 My Nommer. 19 Bean, B-1 Busman Proteaux Prace, 12-1. Distanche: Highesy Fine: Some Obligation. 16-7 others.

BLIMMERIED FIRST TIME Accet 2:30 Pleasure Shared. Ludiow 1:40 Coble, Miss Mylotte 3:45 Kasterice 2:40 Safy's Twins Wolverhampton: 3:55 Pairy Doming

20 Seod Pioga (čitn), 25 Alb George, 9 ran.
71, 41, 141, 94, 231, J King at Swindon, Totar
52 20, 51 30, 52 30, 52 10, DF 512 80
7inir 617-50 CSF 513 34 Tricest 595 19
3.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdie), 1, CHEERFUL,
ASPECT (N. Wildermann, 1, 1-8, 1-8), 2,
Hartequin Chorus (D. Leshy, 7-1), 3,
Waddale (D. J Burchell, 11-2), ALSO RAN11-2 Brecon (II, 7 Arma Solaf (čitn), 6
Cassio's Boy, 9 Bowciste Court (4m), 14
Steve Ford (5th) 8 cm, 21 (3, 14, 18), 191.
Forster at Downton Tote: 12 80, 51 40,
51 70, 51 90, DF 960 CSF 512 34
Tricast 542 25

Incast £42.25
4.20 (3m 2 ch) 1. EARTHMOVER (Mes P Gundry, 10-11 lan), 2. Rusty Bridge (Mr R Burton, 25-11), 3. Diamond Fort (Mr O McPhal, 20-11), ALSO, RAN: 7-4 Holland House, 6 Tho Malakama (4th) 5 ran, 17, der dist, R Barber at Beammster, Toto, £160; £1.30, £3.20 DF £11.70 CSF-£15.34

C15.34
4.50 (cm fluid 1, ARDENTINENY (T Hagger, 4.51), 2. Knightsbridge Bred (R Thornson, 8-1), 3. Threads (P Ryan, 12-1) ALSO RAN-74 for Cherry Pee, 4.14 p For Looke, (8th), 7. Sile Vestments, 12 Octoors Grove, Sparking Dove, 14 Neght-Mare, 16 Sally Lightsbot (6th), 20 Importal Lady Molecky Phrocess, My Dean T And Carone 2-5 Mars Pris (eth), My Despotado, 33 Grazoful Dolly, Jeonarin, Pup's Pet SO Double First, Tatzelone, Tador Radiola, 22 ran 1-4, sh nd, 8, g, 4 N Hericknson at Lambourn Toto, 15 20, 12 60, 1217, 0, 24 00 DF 128 10 Teo £149.40 CSF 124.94

Carlisle

Gong toft (good to soft in places)

1.40 (2m 4l 110xt hosol 1, Hurse Payer (A
Dobber, 14-1), 2, Cuch March (20-1), 3,
Second Fadde (10-1), Lony Louss (4m) 2-1
tax 18 ran 71, 1-a F Murtagn Tota, 117-30,
1200 (2a 40, 1260 (0 F 2009 30) CSF
£241 86 Teo E342 20
£10 (3m to 1, Swantsister (R Supple
13-8) 2, Grato Ded (12-1); 3, Single (16-1)
Fuels Like Gold (5th 6-4 tax 13 ran 8, rik 1,
Lingo Tota £2 80 (7 60, 12-30, 12-20 DF
(12-10 Tax 12-30) CSF £20 76
£40 (3m 41 1)0yd hole; 1, Brosher Of Irits (P

Car. L/D 11 3.10 (2m ch; 1. Marble Man (D Bendey, 7-4 faw), 2. Stormy Coral (4-1), 3. Phossis Bay (9-4) 5 fan NR Flaming Miracla 41 101 M Pol. Tole: 62 30 £1 10, £1 60 DF, £2 50 CSF £881 CSF 1881
3-00 (2m 110-d hdle) 1, Chemy Dee (8 Cratten, 5-1); 2, What Jim Wants (14-1); 3, Liniahten (5-1); Mike Stan 11-8 fee 10 ran 2:1 9. P. Beaumont 10-6 (95 fb. C190, 52 60, C1 50 OF, E43 70 Tro. C116 00. CSF 570/28 Irrast £407 08
4-10 (2m 4) 110-d chi 1. Chipped Out (P. Carberry, 11-8 fan. 2, Karenssino (12-1); 3. Potato Man (9-2) 11 ran 9. S. M Todhunter Lote: C2 10; C1 40, C2 90, C1 40 DF, E18 50 Tro. (56 70 CSF E18 44 Troast £62 50 Tro. (56 70 CSF E18 44 Troast £62 50 Man (9-2) 11 ran (

If you play ace of spades and you pick up the spade suit when the ten or king are singleton in either hand (four

b. A frippery or fandangle c. A Finnish diacritic Answers on page 38

By Raymond Keene Black to play. This position is from the game Placnik - Cvitan, Germany 1997. This is a classic King's Indian Defence position. Black has been wiped out on the queenside, but has staked everything on his artack on the opposite wing. How did this gamble now pay off? Solution on page 38

Scotland's leading lights offer package for peace

SCOTLAND'S ten leading football clubs yesterday is-sued a legally binding document to their counterparts from the lower divisions promising an expanded breakaway league of at least

12 clubs from season 2000-01. They have also guaranteed clubs from the Bell's Scottish League first, second and third divisions a package of financial support estimated at £1.7 million a season in an attempt to underline their commitment to the lesser lights.

In addition, the breakaway group has promised a £250,000 payment to the first division runners-up this season as compensation for the

loss of a play-off place. The document was issued in advance of a meeting tomorrow of all the league clubs at Hampden Park, when the breakaway group is hopeful that its proposals for the new set-up will finally be

voted through.

Chris Robinson, the chief executive of Heart of Midden thian and chairman of the premier division group, emphasised that the legally binding nature of the "Letter of Undertaking" — prepared by the premier division clubs corporate lawyers. Dundas Wilson - should ease any lingering concerns of the

"It should resolve once and for all the question of lack of trust, which has dogged our discussions." Robinson said. "Following a meeting of clubs in divisions one, two and three on Sunday, February 1, we were informed that there was general acceptance that proposed new league would go ahead and that. subject to the delivery of a legally binding document, the overwhelming majority of senior clubs in Scotland would

support us." Marcus Gayle. of Wimbledon, and Fitzroy Simpson, of Portsmouth, scored the goals as Jamaica defeated El Salvador 2-0 to move into the Concacaf Gold Cup semi-

finals in Los Angeles. The Football Association has blocked a move by Ireinternational match at Loftus Road on March 22.

Mick McCarthy's team were hoping to take on Jamaica, who have qualified for the World Cup finals and who include several English-based players in their squad, in London because the Ireland rugby union team meet Scotland at Lansdowne Road in Dublin 24 bours carlier.

The FA. however, has refused to sanction the match hecause it is concerned about the effect that an international would have on local league and non-league games that

FOOTBALL: GOOD ENOUGH, OLD ENOUGH . . . HODDLE GIVES ENGLAND'S RISING STAR HIS CHANCE Owen strikes out for place in history



flock to see the Liverpool

centre forward make history

against Chile, when he makes

his international debut at the

age of 18 years and 59 days, not

to expect too much from one

who has still only played 33 games of club football.

But, in the next breath,

Hoddle, who is used to being

shown unquestioning defer-

from his lips before.

is about to break a

record set by the great Duncan Ed-

wards, one of the

victims of the Mu-

nich disaster; a boy

who has been break-

ing seemingly un-

breakable records

for his entire life.

His appearance to-

night, probably as a

substitute, will confirm him as

He has progressed so fast

a footballing phenomenon.

Football Correspondent

deadly serious about The Kid. Owen, who still lives with his parents in the shadow of William Gladstone's former estate at Hawarden, near Chester, is not only a striker of frightening potential, but he ence from many members of a also has the even temper, the squad still in awe of his talents, was letting his praise absolute dedication to his profession and the aversion to for Owen run free. The sum getting himself into trouble total of his words was a eulogy that Hoddle knows will be that few have heard spring invaluable in the pressure cooker of a six-week tourna-This, after all, is the boy who

ENGLAND'S YOUNGEST v Scotland 1879 v Scotland 1881 v Wales 1880 v Chile 1993 17 years 311 days 13 years 23 days 18 years 59 days 18 years 183 days and 1955 18 years 210 days

> ment such as the World Cup. He is a quiet young man with Alan Shearer's ability to deadbat provocative questions and

that no one is immune from avoid controversy.

Owen's idea of relaxation is the hype any more. As Owen talked with a wry smile about not nightclubbing but an afterhow he had played for Flintnoon on the golf course with shire as a boy and beaten the his father, Terry, once a jourrecord of 72 goals in a season neyman footballer in the lower set by Ian Rush, his listeners leagues, now a scout for Liversat open-mouthed. He was pool. He still has the same asked how many he had friends he had at Hawarden scored. "Ninety-two," he said. High, the same mates who Hoddle laughed out loud and were with him when he broke asked: "Is that a cricket score?" his first records for Deeside The England coach, though,

Schools eight years ago, when England made their last appearance in the World Cup

This time, though, Owen is making a strong case for inclusion in the final squad of 22 to go to France this summer. Hoddle is dearly a confirmed admirer. He likes to attack players with his face up so that he is aware of what is going on around him," Hodlle said. That is a dying art. There are not many players in this country who can run with the ball as quickly as he does. He has got control and pace and he can run off the ball to create space as well as run

with the ball. "He is pretty unique, really. He is a striker who attacks people with the ball. You normally find wingers like Ryan Giggs doing that. He has got the ability to go quickly at opponents right down the middle. Now we just have to find out whether he can make the jump to international level. whether he can get off the hook when he has got international defenders dinging to him. He has shown me no signs yet that he cannot handle it all."

Owen took it all in his stride. He has been fêted all his life. His mother has kept scrapbooks of his feats since those days with Deeside Schools, when he broke the appearance record set by Gary Speed, now of Newcastle United. Her son went to the School of

Excellence for young footballers at Lilleshall. Thereafter, he scored on his debut for England Under-15, Under-16, Under-18 and, late last year, the Under-21 side. No one is betting against him complet-

ing the sequence tonight. It has all come very quickly for me this year." Owen said. and I would be lying if I said I won't be nervous when I get off the bench or start the match tomorrow. But I feel ready. I am confident in my



ability to do well. I don't think age comes into it. The manager has said that if you are good enough, you are old enough and hopefully I come into that

"I suppose there is a bit of pressure on me, but I haven't got anything to lose. Hopeful-

ly, I have got a chance of going to France. The priority is to do well for my club between now and the summer and get seen. by any England scouts who

"A lot of people are bringing my age into it, but for some reason I don't really see myself

as a young player coming into the game." For some reason he does not play like one, either: but there was one last question. Had he played at Wembley before? "For the Under-15s against Brazil and Germ-

any, he said Oh yes, and he scored in both of them, too.

Waugh furious at crowd

trouble Wangh, the Australia captain, complained about the security arrangements at Basin Reserve after crowd trouble soured his side's 66run victory over New -Zealand in a one-day international in Weilington yesterday. Australia players were pelted with fruit, bottles and olf balls by members of

the 12,000 capacity crowd. "It's just a matter of time before someone gets eriously hurt," he said. Stuart Law and Darren Lehmann, who were fielding on the boundary. were the target of particular abuse and when Law was struck by a bottle, Waugh asked the umpires to act to have security increased in the ground.

Baulch out

M ATHRETICS: Jamie Baulch, the world indoor 400 metres silver medalwinner, will miss the European championships in Valencia this month after suffering a hamstring injury. The 24-year-old was absent from the official trials in Birmingham last weekend and will also miss the Bupa Grand Prix meeting at the same venue on Sunday, after which the British team will be

Rosset in gear II MOTOR RACING: Ricardo Rosset, of Brazil, has

been signed as the second driver for the Tyriell grand prix team's final season, it was announced yesterday. Paule, will join Toranosuke Takagi, irom Japan, for Tyrrell's last Formula One year before it is absorbed into the new British

championships last month with a wrist fracture, will play in the Equitable Life Super Series Finals in Hatfield later this month. thanks to another injury. Jonathan Power, of Canada, the world No 3, tore a ligament in his right ankle playing basketball with

his father in Toronto and has Lead Rhino

E RUGBY LEAGUE: Leeds

Rhinos, who start the 1998

Cut Challenge Cup fourth

round on Saturday, have appointed lestyn Harris.

21, the Wales and Great Britain stand off half, as

Murray, the new Leeds

that he is very young. I

their new captain. Graham

coach, said: "Despite the fact

feel he is a natural leader of

any team that he plays in."

Bout delayed

Council welterweight champion, has injured in his

Patrick Charpentier in

month. The fight is now

E BOXING Oscar De La

Hoya, the World Boxing

right wrist and postponed a mandatory defence against

Atlantic City at the end of the

expected to be held in March.

John Cirillo, a spokesman for promoter Bob Arum, said

season at home against Castleford Tigers in the Silk

Coppell suffers miserable evening By OUR SPORTS STAFF

WHEN Crystal Palace earned their place in the FA Carling Premiership last year. Steve somewhat Coppell tongue in cheek, that far from being delighted with the prospect of visiting Old Trafford. Anfield, Highbury and the rest, he was looking forward to ten months of misery. Then

again, perhaps he was not joking after all. Palace are struggling, one of the three promoted Nationwide League first division teams that seem destined to return whence they came, tails between their legs. Barnsley and Bolton Wanderers are below them in the table, but at present it is Palace, managed by Coppell, who are arguably

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Week end Burberrys

Your last chance to

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in 12 words or more...

Write your message below (One word per box - minimum 3 lines)

Beaten 3-0 at home on Monday night, by Wimbledon of all people, ungrateful tennants if ever there were some, their faults were laid bare. Poor defending handed two goals to Carl Leaburn, his first for Wimbledon since moving from Charlton Athletic, and one for Jason Euell in a self-destructive, 11-minute second-half spell. They were well beaten and Coppell knew it, ordering his players in for a nunitive training session yes-

terday morning. "We don't get better by osmosis." Coppell said. "We

the worst team in the have to get out there and work. For 15 minutes in the second It was rank bad defending. Three crosses came in, three goals. You can't legislate for

defensive mistakes like that." The defeat - Palace have vet to win a home league fixture this season - inevitably raised the pressure on Coppell, who has seen Gerry Francis and Terry Venables linked with his job in recent weeks, but he will not resign.

stance," he said. "If Ron [Noades, the chairman] thinks

"The question is always

asked and I maintain the same

someone can do a better job. then fine. I won't be

resigning." Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon team's performance as the best of the season. The victory lifted Wimbledon six points above their landlords and, if they win their game in the hand, they could climb to

ninth in the table. "Psychologically, it's a big lift for us and a real downer for Palace," Kinnear said, "We have made a good habit of beating people who are in the same position as us. We have also done our goal difference a world of good."

Lynam wins fight for Match of the Day

resigning."

Resignation was the furness thing from the mind of Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, who described his

DES LYNAM has succeeded and Trevor Brooking will be screened at 102 to 1 football highlights show had been unhappy with the 10.50pm starting time, which he said was "in the land of the nodding-off" and was adversely affecting ratings of the programme.
The BBC said yesterday that

it would gradually move to an earlier time slot. By the end of the present season, it said, the programme, which is hosted by Lynam, with analysis being provided by Alan Hansen. Mark Lawrenson, Jimmy Hill FOR THE RECORD

scheduling Lynam was imavailable for comment today but had previously said: The best figures we ever had were when if went

out earlier, around 10pm Now it is in the land of the nodding off. How many of us want to start watching programme starting at 10.50pm."
Match of the Day regularly

attracts Saturday night view ing figures of nearly five

Durbern Natel 434 and 220. Gesteng 333 and 100-3. Match chavin. Cape Town Western Province 145 and 427-8 dec. Eastern Province 204 and 245 (L.) Koen 52, P.R. Adams 6-90). Western Province won by 133 p. sec.

FOOTBALL.

FOUR-NATION TOURNAMENT: Latvia & Albana 2 (at Veletta).

C Palace __ 25 5 8 12 21 37 23 Botton __ 25 4 11 10 22 41 23 Barnsley __ 25 6 4 15 22 61 22

donday's late results

Second one-day international New Zealand v Australia V.FLLF.IGTON (Australia won loss): Australia beat New Zealand by 66 runs

AUSTRALIA M E Wassh o Howell b Active tA C Glorus! o McMillan b O'Connor TA C GARRIES & MORAND & NASH B T Porting c Pleming & Nash S Letment c Vetton & O'Connor M G Bevon run out "S R Weston c Pleming & O'Connor 5 G Lew not out 7 M Moody not out Entres 120 5, no 6, w 20

FALL CF WICKETS 1-1, 2-46, 3-168 4-191, 5-265, 6-277 90/51/16 O'Corner 90-55-3 Carris 90-55-0 Nash 10-0-52-1 Doub 4-1-16-0: -tarris 6-0-31-0: Vettori 7-0-49-0 Assie 5-0-32-1

NEW ZEALAND S Howell of Lebraron b Dale
N J ASD S Glotels b Robertson
C L Carns the b S R Waugh
SP Flaming run out
A C Paron run out
C D Molddan o Robertson b Bevan O Methoden ic Robberson o bewar * Harris b Bewar ! Nach e Glichmst b Bevan ! Vetten e M E Waugh b S R Waugh S Couli not out 2 C Comnor run out

Total (47.3 overs) ______231 FALL CF WICKETS 1-1 2-82, 3-86, 4-89, 5-132, 6-142, 7-193, 8-209, 9-219 BOYLERG Bichel 5-0-28-0; Date 5-1-23-1; Roberton 9-0-40-1 Moody 8-1-34-0; Royan 10-1-54-3; S.R. Waugh 9-3-0-45-2. Man of the mater: M E Wayon Umpres: E A Waskin and D M Questad

Cuspadougou) Group D: Morocco 1
Zembia 1 (at Bobo-Diousseo).
SCHOOLS MATCH: Premier Languie Troplay: Under-19: Irrest London 2 Bedfordstrice 0
CONCACAF GOLD CUP: Group one:
Jensatoa 2 El Salvador 0 (in Los Angeles).

HOCKEY SHOOLS MATCHES: RAF careers schools and youth under-19 Dozsel Cupt. Semi-Smale: Cardord 8 Clayermore Shyamston 2 Serioson 1 Final Bryamston 2 Cardord 2 (Bryamston vson 2-1 on penelty Monday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Crystal Palaca 0 Wimbledon 3
P W D L F A Pas
Man Utd. ... 25 15 5 5 52 19 50
Chelsea 25 14 3 8 52 27 45
Liverpool. ... 25 13 6 6 41. 22 45
Blackburn ... 25 13 6 6 41. 22 45
Blackburn ... 25 13 6 6 41. 22 45
Blackburn ... 25 13 6 8 31 39
Liversham ... 25 11 6 8 39 31 39
Liversham ... 25 11 6 8 39 31 39
Liversham ... 25 12 211. 37 35 38
Weet Harm ... 25 12 2 11. 37 35 30 32
Liversham ... 25 7 9 9 23 34 30
Newcastle ... 25 9 5 17 25 30 32
Southampton 25 9 4 12 23 35 31
Covertify ... 25 7 9 9 23 34 30
Shell Wed ... 25 8 6 11 37 48 30
Shell Wed ... 25 8 6 11 37 48 30
Shell Wed ... 25 8 6 11 37 48 30
Shell Wed ... 25 7 7 11 30 37 28
Tromsham ... 25 7 5 13 24 41 25
C Palaca ... 25 5 8 12 21 37 23 NETBALL

BNGLAND LEAGUE: First divisions Bediordaine 32 Middenex 43, Kent 55, Notinghamshee 32: Surrey 44 Essex Met 45; Warwickshee 40 Derbyshee 53. RUGBY UNION

SQUASH NATIONAL SUPER LEAGUE: Lianet Sur-bitori © Durvaven Maesteg 3; Roekenda Manchester 3 Heidar Insurance © K2. Lionherts D Ellis Lingüeld 3.

THE TIMES STUDENTS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONISHIP: Sent-finat University of Wales Institute Certiff 14 Swarzese University 10 (at Oyn Coed).
UNIVERSITY MATCH: Bristol 16 Oxford 15. SCHOOLS MATCH: Retworth 28 Griggieswick 5.

TENNIS

ST PETERSBURG: St Patersburg: Open: First round: 7 Johnnston (Swe) bit G-Forzi (6) 7-8, 6-2 O Hobby (Blookles) bit R-Forzi (6) 7-8, 6-2 O Hobby (Blookles) bit R-Forzi (6) 7-8, 6-2 O Hobby (Blookles) bit J Amain (Spi) 6-4, 7-6, 4 van Herder (64) bit M Tästrich (Swe) 3-6, 5-3, 8-4; F Sambror (Fi) bit A Bostoch (Fi) 7-6, 6-3; Deletino (Fi) bit A Bostoch (Fi) 7-6, 6-3; Deletino (Fint sound: 1 Hease (Soi) bit J A Vitica (Spi) 6-1, 6-4; G Sastoch (SA) bit R Remberg (LS) 6-4, 6-2; J-M Genthal (LS) bit S Sogosin (LS) bit R Delpado (Para) 7-5, 6-2-A Agessi (LS) bit M Austin (Spi) 6-2, 6-2; M Cheng (LS) bit M Craca (San) 6-2, 6-2; M Cheng (LS) bit M Craca (San) 6-2, 6-2; M Cheng (LS) bit M Craca (San) 6-2, 6-4. Graci (La) bit S Scheel (Alastra) 6-2, 4-6, 6-2; S Fentre (La) bit bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-3, 7-4; E Lot (Fi) bit M Adeduction (C2) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (La) 6-1; 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LS) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) bit L Meland (LR) 6-1, 6-3; S Plantan (LR) 6-1,

VOLLEYBALL BNGUSH LEAGUE Warner: First divisions London Malory 3 Britarrie 1 (15-5 - 15-15). Lendon: OKK Mandander United 3 (5-16, 16-18, 10-16 Statistics Maloridation of London Country 3 Loughborough (2-16, 17-16, 15-4, 15-15, 15-13).

THE WESTIMES

RACING

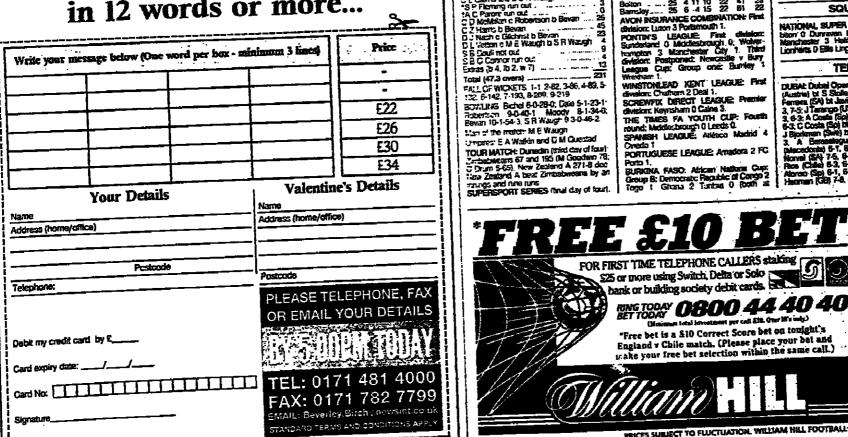
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Minett waltz E SHOOTING: Louise

yesterday.

Minett 22. from Fareham: Hampshire, beat her own British air rifle record by seven points at the Intershoot meeting at The Hague, the first



Price



13-

could raise up to £15 million.

card to purchase a variety of mission which goes to their own club funds. ☐ England will play Wales at

مكذا من الاجل

Rugby union facing test of its resolve to police players in the professional era

Yates's penalty leaves image in the balance

RUGBY union continues its walk through the minefield. Even before the advent of

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sibilities implicit in the exer- Fenn, suffered the injury. cise of the sport and the suspension of Kevin Yates for the panel regarding the length ear-biting has proved yet of sentence, which is the same another test of rugby's resolve. Many will say that a six-month ban is far too lenient.

Immediate parallels, both preprofessionalism, can be drawn from South Africa where, in 1994, an international prop was suspended for 19 months and a club player for life for ear-biting. Johan le Roux was sem home from South Africa's tour to New Zealand for biting Sean Fitzpatrick, the All. Blacks captain, and was never selected by his country again. Wittes Buitendach savaged the ear of an opposing hooker so badly that 128 stitches were

needed to repair the damage.
Post-professionalism, however, the Rugby Football
Union's (RFU) three-man disciplinary panel was required to perform a balancing act. They pronounced Yates guilty in the small hours of yesterday morning on the balance of probability, as a civil court requires. A criminal court would have required them to find a verdict beyond reasonable doubt and it may be that the difference between those requirements led to the length of sentence.

There was no absolute video evidence, as there was in the case of le Roux. The panel had, therefore, to weigh the verbal

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHAT HE

MISSES

Heineken Cup: the final .

Allied Dunber Premiership: 14 metches

Tetley's Bitter Cup: 1 match

England internationals (se-nor or A): 4 matches in the Five Nations series

England summer tour (to Australia, New Zealand and

SCTUML.

player who suffered a broken

neck when a scrum collapsed

in a colts match in Sutton

It is that verdict that leads

judgments of what is foul play,

often suffering derision from

players of another era who

remember when casual vio-

lence was almost taken for

In this instance, the RFU

and written evidence presentprofessionalism the Ben ed to it by the players involved Smoldon case — which book in the match between Bath. five years to resolve - Yates's club, and London Scotemphasised the grave respon-tish whose flanker, Simon

There was no restraint upon as that awarded against Neil

Leicester and England flanker, for pushing the referee. Steve end of the 1996 Pilkington Cup

Which is the worse offence, the public might ask, and which hurt the sport's image more? Pushing over a match official or taking a bite out of a player's

But the panel has also taken account of the fiscal punishment Yates - assuming he does not make a successful appeal - will suffer. He must pay £23,500 in costs, he could find his contract with Bath under review and he has missed the match fees attached to England selection during his suspension - senior and A matches during the Five Nations Championship and the summer tour to the southern hemisphere. There is also the stain on his character which will never be completely erased, however successful a

comeback he may make.

can hardly be accused of dragging its heels - the delay That he could yet play for in the judicial hearing was at England again is implicit in the behest of Yates and his remarks made by Clive advisers, not through the Woodward, the England union's procrastination.

coach, yesterday though he The RFU has sought a might have been better admeeting since last October with the English Rugby Parivised to make them at a later date. At the moment the Yates nership (which organises the case is part of the broader professional game for the problem facing a sport in which physical violence is enleading clubs) to discuss disciplinary procedures and, in the absence of any such meeting, it will shortly propose its own shrined by law the tackle, the

It must surely consider the collision at the aopointment of a match or If rugby canciting commissioner similar to not be played with consent, by New Zealand for the past two years, or of an automatic the performers and the arbitradisciplinary panel such as tors, then it canrugby league uses. The one thing this case has shown is not be played at all. The players' the need for disciplinary inquineed for self-disries to be removed from the cipline has never clubs concerned. The game's profile is such that the tradimattered more. the application of the rules by tional expectancy for clubs to the referees has never been impose their own discipline scrutinised more closely, parcan no longer be endured; ticularly in the wake of the almost invariably an offence not spotted by match officials Smoldon verdict in which the match official was judged to have failed in his duty to the

The Yates case has also caused the RFU to consider the application of forensic techniques, including DNA referees and touch judges to be tests, to ensure that the interespecially cautious in their ests of justice can be served as completely as possible. Though the player himself will scarcely appreciate it, Yates may have helped the game to avoid some of the landmines which still lie

will be highlighted, either by

word of mouth or by

television.



Yates is forced to brave the cameras yesterday after being found guilty of biting

Punishment must fit the crime

ugby union has to be careful not to impose inappropriate penalties on professional players committing foul play, a leading expert on sport and the law said yesterday.

Edward Grayson, a lawye and founder president of the British Association for Sport and Law, said that the formal change of the elite sport from had to assess the effect of any disciplinary decision on a player's capacity to earn a

Grayson said: "A two-year ban might have been appropriate for an amateur biting the ear of an opposing player. but this might be overturned in the civil courts for a professional. He might claim that a two-year suspension was an unreasonable restraint

He pointed out that last

John Goodbody assesses the harsh

realities facing rugby's governing bodies as they administer penalties

teur player with Edinburgh four matches after he had Academicals, was banned for four years for breaking the jaw of Craig Halliday, of Kelso, with a punch. It is the the Scottish Rugby Union, but it was probably justified by the governing body because of the gravity of the offence and the bad publicity and harm caused to the game, Grayson said. However, he added that

a professional player might have challenged a ban of this length in the courts. A precedent exists. In February 1997, Mrs Justice Ebsworth backed the High Court appeal of Mark Jones, Wales international. year, Jason Fayers, an amabeen sent off for fighting. She said that the Welsh Rugby Union's punishment was both of "unreasonable length' and

no "real rights". What rugby may expereince in future is what has already happened in other sports. Several suspensions for drug abuse, such as the one imposed on Katrin Krabbe, the German sprinter, have been shortened after appeals under civil law.

However, courts sometimes impose harsher sentences on players than the governing body. Last year Simon Devereux, of Gloucester, was jailed against his suspension for for nine months for breaking the jaw of Jamie Cowie, the Rosslyn Park captain. The most prominent case in

recent years involving earbiting was that in 1994 when Johan Le Roux, the South Africa prop, bit Sean Fitzpatrick, the New Zealand captain, in an international match. He was sent home from the tour and banned from playing for 19 months.

Le Roux gave warning to will "never be quite the same again. The first year after you start playing is the worst. You want to go out there and prove a point to everyone but there is a need to control your aggression".

Le Roux, who is now a member of the Northern Bulls' Super 12 squad, said: "1 suppose it is pretty unfair when you consider that I got 19 months while Kevin Yates receives just six. There needs to be a worldwide code of conduct on this."

Newcastle book new date with Saracens

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

NEWCASTLE have rearranged their crucial Allied Dunbar Premiership match with their championship rivals, Saracens, for Wednesday, March 25. The game was postponed

just before Christmas because of Newcastle's European Conference semi-final tie against Agen, and is scheduled at Kingston Park. Because of the midweek date, Newcastle do not expect many Saracens supporters to travel.

St James' Park, home of discussed as a possible venue. given the expected ticket demand, while Gateshead international Stadium also figures in Falcons' plans, but Kingston Park remains the present option. Newcastle and Saracens are

eight points clear of a chasing pack led by Leicester, and their two head-to-head contests could decide the championship.

Newcastle have also announced two other rearranged league games. They entertain Sale on Tuesday March 10 and visit Wasps, the champions last season, on Wednesday April 22. Thomas Lievremont, the

France back row forward, is expected to be fit to face Scotland at Murrayfield on February 21 after injuring ribs in the alleged stamping incident involving the England prop, Jason Leonard.

to train for eight days as a result of the injury picked up in the Five Nations match against England in Paris on Saturday. The French Rugby Federation have lodged a letter of complaint with the Rugby Football Union over Leonard's alleged actions.

A scheme to help rugby clubs raise funds was launched yesterday by Fran Cotton, manager of the British Isles last year, and Ray Williams, the former chairman of the four home unions. It is estimated that the Sponsor's Card -- a smart card pioneered by Rugby Network in parmership with several leading financial institutions -

Club members can use the

A level for the first time on February 20, thereby completing a full house of five-nations matches at secondary level. Hitherto the Rugby Football Union has shied away from what amounts to a second-tier championship but the new management favours the arrangement and the game will take place at Leicester on the eve of the senior international between the two countries.



Fenn, the London Scottish flanker, required 25 stitches to repair his damaged ear

Sinbin mooted to cool Five Nations passions

here is a growing belief among top-class referees that a sinbin should be introduced in the Five Nations Championship. The shenanigans between Paul Wallace and George Graham, the Irish and Scottish props, during the international in Dublin on Saturday illustrates their argument, according to Brian Campsall, one of England's senior officials.

Campsall, a touch judge at Lansdowne Road, and Andre Watson, the South African referee who warned both props, contemplated sending them off but held back. The sinbin would have been the perfect solution according to Campsall, who is not alone in thinking that a totting up procedure should also be adopted for yellow cards: "I found in league games that the threat of the bin is more than enough of a deterrent. As for yellow cards, at the moment they are meaningless. We should follow the football system where a yellow card is worth, for example, four points and after 12 points you are suspended for a match."

Campsall considers the whole system of white, yellow and red cards confusing. In New

Zealand, any offence that doesn't warrant a sending off incurs a yellow card and ten minutes in the sinbin. "It makes life a lot easier." he said. "It really should be introduced for next season."

Brains trust

In the wake of England's defeat in Paris, Clive Woodward, the coach, summoned Lawrence Dallaglio. the captain, Paul Grayson and Kyran Bracken to Twickenham for an in-depth debrief yesterday. Woodward wanted his "three key decision makers" to analyse what went wrong at Stade de France and what lessons could be learnt before the game against Wales.

Elusive bonus

Derrick Lee, the London Scottish fullback, thought that he had earned a £10,000 bonus from his club after winning his first cap as a 79thminute replacement for Rowen Shepherd in Dublin. However, he had not checked the small print He had to play at least ten minutes of an international before he is entitled to his money. He hopes that he figures more prominently when the Scottish side to play France is announced today



☐ The first player to be sent off in 127 years of Scottish international rugby was dismissed playing against I reland at the weekend. No, there wasn't an altercation in the tunnel at Lansdowne Road. The culprit was Alison McGrandles, 26, who was shown the red card in the women's international at Old Belvedere, which Scotland won

Irish trial?

The inquest into Ireland's defeat rages on and debate again centres on the value of having so many players in England. There has been no discernible improvement in the national team's fortunes since the boys went over the water. Brian Ashton, the coach, maintained that they are the best available. Not everyone agrees and Chartie Mulqueen of The Cork

Examiner makes an interesting proposition - a trial match between Ireland-based players and

Technicolour

The impish Thomas Castaingnède is threatening to dye his hair again. Having lost a bet to Didier Lacroix, his former Toulouse colleague, the fly half went peroxide blond for the England clash -- with instant results. Now he thinks a blue rinse would be appropriate for the game against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday week. He's contemplating a green dye for the Ireland game and a reddish hue for Wales.

Overseas grip

Antipodeans retain their grip on the leadership of Oxford and Cambridge universities. Australia provided both captains at

Twickenham last December and David Kelaher (St Joseph's College and St Cross), from Sydney, will lead the Dark Blues this year with Andy Roberts (Ampleforth and New College) as his secretary. Matt Faulds (Christ's College. Canterbury and Sidney Sussex) will captain the Light Blues from tight-head prop. He is Australian by birth but grew up in New Zenland. His deputy is another Australian prop. Richard Bailey.

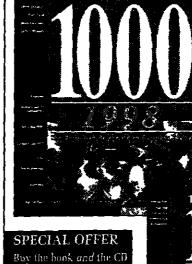
Legal case

Will a panel of professional match commissioners be next on rugby's agenda? As of last weekend, the IRFB insists that commissioners, who deal with citiggs and foul play, have a legal background to meet the new demands of professionalism. As a side issue it meant that two Welsh committee men had their trips cancelled. Howard Watkins was due in Paris and Geraint Edwards in Dublin. They had to be replaced by Sam Simon and Terry Vaux, respectively the presidents of Pontypridd and Pontypool, and both solicitors.

MARK SOUSTER

and THE FIGURES The Times 1000 1998 Published every year since 1967 With full listings of the UK's and

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL kick-off 7.30 unless stated International match B international match

RYMAN LEAGUE First division: Croydon Thans United: Molesty v Bilancey.
UNISONO LEAGUE: League Cup: Footish round: Boston v Akrinchem. Unistia First Division cup: Third round: Forsicy Cellic v Leach United. Lincoln United.

AVON MSURANCE COMBINATION:
Plist diffeion: Brighton v Charlton (at
Worthing FC; 7.0): Crystel Palace v (pswich;
[2.0]: Swindon v Southempton (7 16):
Toffenham v Wimbledon (at Leyton Orient
FC, 2.0):
PONTINGE LEAD TO

PC, 2.0).
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Asion Yilla v Tranmere (7.0). Birmingtan) v Liverpool (at Heatmastord Town FC, 7.15). Blackburn V Preston (7.0). Filter division: Bolton v Lisipeater (at The Reabolk Stackum.

7.0]; Hucklersfleit v Grimsby (7 0); Olcham y Port Valle (at Boundary Perk, 7.0); West Bromwich v Notre Courty (at Hajasower Town FC, 7.0). Second divisions Burnley v Strawsbury (7.13); Carliste v Rotherham (at Greine PC, 7.0); Stockport v Bradlord (at Hyde United FC, 7.0); Westham v Barnsley (7.0); Vork v Lincoln (7.0). Third division: Donaster v Wilgen (7.0); Westham v Scarborough (7.0); Newcassie v Bury (at Cateshead FC, 7.0).

v Scarborough (1.9), reasonable voly as Cateshead FC, 7.0.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MOLANDS-LEAGUE: O'Fleen Builthess Premier division Cup: Second round, first leg-brache Sparte v-Hängdon Borough.

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMERNATION: Premier division: Sudiey BKI, v GPT (Cowerlay): Worcestero v Messey Forguson.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round replay: Firm Harps v Calvay.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Gilbert League Cup: Semi-finel, first leg: Ownbran v Barry.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE Fort William v Elgin; Fraserburgh v Deverorivale.

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth-round: Posterrouth v Chessa. Fourth-round replay: Leeds v Middlestrough RUGBY UNION Affed Dunber Premiesship First division

Bath v Gloucester (7,15) Tennents Premiership First-division Lanadowne v St Marys (7 0)

Cambridge University v Army (7,15) OTHER SPORT ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Semi-final, first lag: Notingham Pertines v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.30)

Citub metch

ahead of them. In that case, with Federico Méndez taking

miss the visit of Gloucester to the Recreation Ground in the Allied Dunbar Premiership tonight. Guscott, the centre, is being rested after England's defeat by France in the Five Nations Championship last Saturday, while Regan, the hooker, suffered a bruised shoulder during that 24-17

as he faces a further three weeks out after damaging knee ligaments against Brive in the Heineken Cup final, allowing Russell Earnshaw a rare opportunity in the back TOW.

In Bath's first match since they were crowned European champions, courtesy of their victory against Brive, they need to win to peg back Newcastle, the Premiership leaders, who are 12 points

Gloucester would appear to be ideal opponents, for they have never managed to win a league match at the Recreation Ground. However, Gloucester do have two former Bath players

- Audiey Lumsden, the full back, and Steve Ojomoh, the No 8 — in their side.

Ojomoh has particular reason to be looking forward to the match: "It's going to be a strange feeling, considering that I live just one minute's walk away from the Bath

Bath searching for derby success

JEREMY GUSCOTT and Mark Regan, of Bath, will

Matt Perry, who hopes for an England recall when Wales visit Twickenham next week. replaces Guscott alongside Phil de Glanville in midfield,

over from Regan. Nathan Thomas is another who is unavailable for Bath.

ground," he said.

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CRICKET: ENGLAND COACH SEEKS HELP AS TEST CULPRITS ARE TAKEN TO TASK

Angry Lloyd banks on Botham

ON THE morning after his greatest disappointment as the England cricket coach, David Lloyd took himself and his darkest thoughts off to the beach here in Trinidad. Today, armed with a book full of notes and a head full of frustration, he will force his players to review how they came to lose the second Test match. More than one pair of ears will be burning.

Lloyd will concentrate on the woeful performances of Dean Headley and Andy Caddick, the new-ball bowlers. Their inability to maintain a consistent length or line, the fundamental of every bowler from the village green upwards, defeated the field placings of Michael Atherton, insulted the valiant bowling of Angus Fraser and indisputably cost England the match.

One of the pair, probably Caddick, may make way for the Test debut of Ashley Cowan on Friday, but first they will be coached and counselled by lan Botham at a net session tomorrow. "I'm letting Ian loose on them and he won't waste his words." Lloyd said.

Yesterday, the Trinidad newspapers were conferring saintliness on their favourite son. On front and back pages. Brian Lara was lauded as the inspirational leader who will make West Indies great again. In truth, however, a remarkable match was not so much won by Lara and his men as it FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN PORT OF SPAIN

was jost by England. "For the last day and a half we played horrendous cricket," Lloyd said.

The unpalatable prospect of returning to Queen's Park Oval, to the same dressing-room and an adjacent pitch. when the series resumes persuaded Lloyd to give his team two days off. This evening, however, they will gather for what he calls a debriefing and he will not spare any feelings.

It is the burden of every coach that he can only prepare his players, not perform for them, and as Lloyd sat stony-faced through the disillusioning final hours of a game that England had controlled, his emotions were readily imagined. "In Test cricket, it's all about giving out pressure and soaking it up yourselves," he said. "It's how you handle it that counts and some of our lads didn't handle it at all well.

"I said nothing to them at the end of the game because there was nothing useful to say. For some while, there was absolute silence in the dressingroom. Then, gradually, those who are honest and open began to speak up and admit they had blown it."

Lloyd wisely stayed away from the media in the immediate aftermath, for it is at such sensitive times that his passion can be counter-productive. He returned to the hotel, wrote up his diary and then went to the airport to meet his youngest son. The airline had lost his baggage," he said. "It was the end of a perfect day.

"My diary records that all our bankers, all the players I felt we could depend upon, performed well. But two of our side, the two main bowlers, didn't perform at all. When the third seamer, the one who is supposedly only there for support, takes II wickets and you still lose, something is badly wrong.

"I logged every ball of the last innings and it doesn't make for good reading. We had seen Curtly Ambrose run in and put the ball on the right spot for our batters to nick it. We knew what was required, but we couldn't produce it. As a coach, I was uneasy hearing my bowlers say they felt they only had to kiss the top of this pitch to get the right result. I wanted to hear that they would

run in and give it everything.
"Headley was only in his fourth Test. He has that mix of exuberance and innocence, but it should hit him hard after this that maximum performance is the only acceptable thing in Test cricket. With Caddick, the exasperation is that he is either hot or cold and he wasn't hot here."

For Lloyd, the problem is how much

tinkering is advisable within a team that so nearly won. Russell had an untidy match and Tufnell did not have the expected impact on the second innings, but Lloyd is inclined to excuse both. "I'm very happy with Russell and the conditions for keeping wicket were difficult. Tufnell did a good defensive job and bowled long spells when the truth is we should hardly have needed him."

Hollioake's anonymous performance will also be discussed, and as he does not impress as a Test-match No 6 and his five overs here suggest he is not rated by Atherton as an authentic fourth seam bowler, his position must be in jeopardy. There is a faction of the management that supports the elevation of Mark Ramprakash, but as he has not yet played a match on the tour this is unlikely to happen before the next leg of the trip, in Guyana.

If this series is to be reclaimed, however, attitude will be equally as important as personnel. England have suffered a serious setback and they have to react with speed and spirit, for to stumble a second time would be to concede irretrievable ground.

The result here handed a powerful psychological advantage to West Indies. To win at the same venue so few days later is a daunting task for England, but one in which they cannot afford to fail.

Beauty babes revisited

Under the Sun: Painted Babies BBC2, 9.00pm:

If Jane Treave's documentary about the American pageant circuit rings a bell this is because it was pageam circuit rings a bell this is because it was originally shown in the Under the Sun series three years ago. The justification for another airing is partly that the film deserves it but also that Treays had added an update on what has happened to her young heroines since. When we first met them, Asia Mansur and Brooke Breedwell were fiveyear-olds competing for beauty titles at the Southern Charm Pageant in Atlanta. Transformed by make-up artists into little painted dolls and egged on by ambitious and obsessive parents, Asia and Brooke showed that they had what it took to the transforment that was still on the get to the top. Three years on they are still on the circuit and still winning prizes, which can be anything from a car (not much use to a tot) to a cheque for \$25,000.

BBC2, 9.50pm

The final report from Thames Valley Police concentrates on an idea close to the heart not only of the Chief Constable, Charles Pollard, but the Home Secretary, Jack Straw. It is called resturative justice and involves bringing offenders and their victims face to face to discuss the effect of the crime. Vicinis are to face to oscuss the enect of the strine.

Pollard believes that invenile and first-time offenders in particular can be dissuaded from embracing a career in crime if they are confronted with the results of their behaviour at an early stage. One of the "restorative conferences" brings a shopliffer together with the store detective who arrested him. Another confronts a teenage graffiti vandal with the man who had to clean up. As with all initiatives, this one has its critics. They question whether it is effective and even whether the police should be involved.

Channel 4, 9.00pm

Although British viewers might like to see their own Alex Kingston getting more of the action, the Chicago hospital drama continues to keep its cast busy. Half a dozen plots and subplots are buzzing around tonight, helped by the busiest character of all, the camera operator. The camera is hardly ever

Brooke Breedwell wins again (BBCl, 9pm)

still as it roams the hospital floor, following first one piece of action and then gliding off to find another. The show's reputation for humour is maintained as a performance artist is brought in with a builtet hole in his leg but ER is more about the medics than the patients. Tonight it is mainly about Anthony Edwards's Dr. Greene, who is cracking up under a threatened law suit, and George Clooney's Dr Ross, for whom there is had news from California. All is set for an unusual next episode in which the two men head West.

BBC1, 10.45pm

Psychologists could have a field day with Jose, the last subject of Esther Rantzen's illuminating series. As a child she never knew her father and her mother regarded her as nothing but trouble and for a punishment would leave her in the pitch dark bound and gagged. Now Jose is in charge, a dominatrix in the language of the prostitute's trade. Her clients are men who want to be humiliated, usually dressed up as French maids or schoolgirls. Beating men and being paid for it is her revenge for what she went through in childhood. The other strand in the story is that having married and had children. Jose found she having married and had children. Jose found she was attracted to other women. She has been with her lesdian partner for five years but says it makes no difference to her work. Nor, although she is 60, does she intend to retire.

Peter Waymark

The research process for Andrew Motion's recently published biography of John Keats included a journey to Italy in the steps of Keats, who travelled there in 1820 in the vain hope of recovering from consumption in a better climate: he had initially diagnosed the disease himself and was at first treated at his home in Hampstead. Keats was to

die in Rome, in a house at the foot of the Spanish

Steps, the following year. In this programme Motion presents a diary of his own journey through a work that is essentially a reflection on the nature of water, and what a vivid account it is.

Motion uses poetic imagery in a most energetic and moving way to recount his own experience and that of Keats 175 years earlier. Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

Reading Aloud: Sailing to Italy

Radio 4, 8,30pm

Who Sings the Hero: Trapped Radio 4, 2,00pm

Football grounds have been the scene of awful routing grounds in the late 20th century but in the late 19th such catastrophes were prone to happening in theatres. One of the worst tires in the history of theatre happened at the Theatre Royal in Exeter in September of 1887. More than 180 people died in the inferno, which reduced the theatre to ashes. But the fire was to theatre safety what the stream to freetre! Hillsborough became to football ground safety, a catalyst for the introduction of new safety measures, including the introduction of the fire curtain and emergency exits. This play, written by Martin Sorrell of Excler University from contemporaneous newspaper accounts, tells the story of the fire and its aftermath.

RADIO 1

Jo Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbest 2.00 Mars, Radgille, 4.00 Citie Warren. Includes 5.45 Newsbest 6.30 This Evening Session 8.30 Moute Update with Mark Nempole 8.40 Littin Peel. Includes a session by Caladico 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbie 1.00em Charlie Jordan 4.00 Cluts Moyles.

RADIO 2

6:00em Newsday 6:30 Europe Today 7:00 News 7:15 Off the Shaff Lottering with intent 7:30 Medician Live 8:00 News 8:10 Paulie for Thought 6:15 Westway 6:30 Feesywomen 6:00 News News in German (6:48 only) 9:05 World Business Beport 9:15. This Familia. World 9:30 Bitain Now-9:45 Shorts Boundup 10:00 Newsdask 10:30 One Planiel 1:00 Newsdask 11:30 Shorts Promitional 1:200. News 1:205pers World Business Report 12:15 Bitish Today 12:20 Soundbyle 12:45 Shorts Roundup 1:20 Newsdour 2:20 News 2:25 Cuthols 2:30 Megamis 3:00 News 2:05 Shorts Roundup 1:20 News 3:00 News 2:05 Shorts Roundup 3:15 Performance 13:30 Everywomen 4:00 News 4:15 From Our Own Somespooldent 4:30 The World Today. News in Gentan 16:89 only 3:45 Shorts Today 5:20 Europe Today 5:20 Newsdask 6:30 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 Newsdask 6:30 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 2:00 Newsdask 6:30 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 News 2:01 Cuthols 3:00 The Maries News In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 The Maries In Geograf (6:8 only 7:00 The asa Serah Kannady 7.30 Waka Up to Wogan 9.30 Ala Lester 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walter 7.00 Nick Stemackungt 8.00 Reigh McTel 9.00 Ironic Maldents 9.30 The Cruet See 14.00 The Stews Wight Picture Show 10.30 Richard Alimeer 12.05 Jim. Stews Madden 3.00 Armie Othen - AV

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00mm The Bresidest Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-Midday with Mair 2.00pm Invertals on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Worldter 7.00 Naws Extra 7.30 Football Night. Live coverage from Wernbley of the friendly between England and Chile 10.00 Dominik Diamond 11,00 News Edita 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00em Jeremy Clark 7.00 The Chris Biens Breeklast Show 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pen Nick Abbot 4.00 Robin Banks: 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (AM) Ray Cokes 10.00 Mark Forest 2.00em Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Overton 9.00 Scott Chleholm 12.00 Lorraine Keily 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deelby 7.00 Anna Reeburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

CLASSIC FM

Press 8.90 Newstrant 4.00 Newscask 10.30 The World Business Fagort 9.15 Editain Today 1.9.45 Sports Founding 1.1.00 Newscask 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Founding 11.90 News 11.95 Cutlock 11.30 Militarck % Press 12.00 Newscask 12.30 am From Our Own! Correspondent 12.45 Bitain Today 1.00 Newscask 1.30 Corplines 2.00 Newscask 1.30 Corplines 2.00 Newscask 1.30 Corplines 2.00 Newscask 1.30 Corplines Report 3.15 Sports Rounding 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Rounding 3.30 Private View 3045 The Learning World 4.00 Newscask 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newscask 5.30 Europe Today.

e. Obers Breaksst with Belley 2.00 Henry Kelly. Nichael Barry prepared ungetable strayers. Plus Record of the Week, Hall of Fame Hour and the Classic Messepheer 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jens-Jones: Introduces Estates's (avoutte places, 2.00pm Congeto: Instanta (Double Congeto: In A minor) 3.00 Jamie. Crick, Including Alternation Florance and Continuous Classics. 8.30 Newshight with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven presented by John Paragraps 9.00 Except Classics of Seven-presented by John Bruming 9.00 Evening Concert. Revel (Deptins and Chice Suite No.2); R. Strauss (Andern beum Bennne); Bax (Fintaget); Hotst (The Planets) 11.00 Mann at Night. Music Brough the midnight hour 2.00am Concerto () 3.00 Mark Griffins

8AD!03

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor, Including Schumann (Piano Cuintet in E fiss); Bizet (Overture Patrie); Handel (Concerto Grosso in G); Chopin (Andante Spianato et Grande Poloneire Brillante); Bizet (L'amour est un Olseeu Rebelle, Carmen);

Bizet (L'amour est un Olseeu Rebelle, Carment);
Grainger (The Warrior)
9.00 Masterworku, with Peter Hobday, Tchalkovsky
(Marche Slave); Mozart (Plano Soneta Ir A minor);
Grainger (Lincolnatine Posy); Purcell (Fentasia
upon One Note); Mendelssohn (Symphony No 3
in A minor, Scottish)
10.30 Artist of the Weelc Murray Perahla. Joan
Belswell discovers more about Murray Perahla's
decision to record Baroque music
11.00 Sound Stories. Donatel Marchant emplesed

und Stories. Donald Macked explores azquez's time as court painter to King Philip IV of Spain of Spain

1.00 Components of the Week: Chopia

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert; Live from
the Adrian Boult Hell, Strainghave, The Lindsays,
Shostalovich (String Quartet No 4); Tappett (String
Quartet No 5).

Shostakovich (String Quartet No 4); Tippett (String Quartet No 5) 2.00 Mitcheek Cholos, Telephone 0171-785 4308 with

your classical music requests, introduced by Susan Starpe
4.00 Choral Evenanong, Live from Peterborough Cathedral, Master of music Christopher Gower.

Connect Make of music chreeping Gower, Organist Mark Duthle 5.00 in Tune. Sean Raffedy is joined by the Scandinavian sopramo Solveig Kingelborn. Music includes Schubert, Radinaviano and at 7.00 Khechaturian's ballet music from Spaniacus

7.19. Performance or 3: Cost Fan Tutte. Live from the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. Germaina Grear comments on the performance as Linda Omnistori presents Scottish Opera's new production of Microsal's sogram. With Claire Rutter, soprano, Michelle Walton, mazzo, lain Paton, tenor, Peter Mattel, baritone, Scottish Opera Orchestra under Nicholas McGegari 8.35 Postscript. The Brecht Centanery (3/5) 8.55 Cost Fan Tutte, Part 2 10.45 Might Waves; Includes a look at the sociologist W. Bruchman's new book The Social Animal, which explores the nature of society. Plus

A D. M. MARGE

5-5-4 5-5-4 5-6-4 1-7-1

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1.30

W.G. Runciman's new book the Social Animal which explores the nature of society. Plus Humphrey Carpenter explores the role of literary estates and executors focusing particularly on the Brecht estate the Brecht estate Brecht e

timiler directed by Francis Ford Coppola, and The Blackout, starting Dennis Hopper and Matthew

Modine
4.45 Sturt Story: The Poison Gairden, by Rachel
Bentham, read by Sally Cookson
5.00 PM, with Clare English and Charlie Lee-Potter
5.50 Shoping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Sto O'Chock Name 6.30 Counterpoint. Heat six
of the general knowledge music quiz hosted by
Ned Steam (n)

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Partisanent 6.56 Weether 9.00 News 9.05 Midweet, with the Times columnist. Libby Purves and bithday quest Rusself Grant 10.00 (FM) News; A Good Read, Werran Middlell and Victor Adebowske discuss their faucustre

6.00 Sh: G'Cleck News 8.30 Counterpoint. Heat six of the general knowledge music quiz hosted by Ned Shenn (f)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Face the Facts. John Waite and his team investigate listeners complaints the fire final six of the fire of the six of the fire o

Hollioake adopts the

Simon Wilde finds an England

work ethic

prospect developing his talents

here is no doubt as to who is the main attraction on the England A tour of Sri Lanka. Ben Hollioake, burdened with more expectations of national cricketing salvation than any 20-year-old could ever meet. may not be receiving the attention that he would were he now in the Caribbean, but he is the local point of public and media interest here.

Gradually, by dint of his performances, he has come to warrant his status, and knowing his appetite for the big occasion, there was nothing random about the timing. In the first two A "Tests", he scored 68, 103 and 45 and

most unpromising conditions. That run also began at the same time as the Test series in the West Indies and coincided with a media visit here, organised by Vodalone, sponsors of the England team. Vodafone sold the trip on the understanding that there would be access to Hollioake and it was not short of takers. Hollioake, quietly pleased at the attention but unfazed by it. promptly provided something to write about.

£46.66_{0.00}

£2,000

He knows that the time for hyperbole has passed, that he must start doing justice to his talent. "I do not get annoyed when people say I'm not yet fulfilling my potential," he said yesterday, "maybe be-cause there is truth in it. I've got to give them reason to stop saying it."

If Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting, the manager and coach of the A side, have achieved anything, it is in making Hollioake realise that the means lies within himself - and that it involves hard work, something of which he is still, perhaps, shy. There is much to be done.

"He's a very natural cricketbowled searching spells in the er. but still very raw." Gooch said. "He's got to be exposed to more first-class cricket. If my judgment is correct, he is the sort who will improve the

more games he plays. "He realises he has got to work on his foot movements. On the few occasions I have seen him in England, he did not move them enough. He needs to make more conscious efforts to move backwards and forwards. What interests me is the way he has played here, He has played sensibly, mix-

a month will

get you

NOW

UNSECURED PERSONAL LOANS



Hollioake displays the exceptional timing that makes his batting so effective

ing defence with attack and ing critically at his batting playing good percentage

Gooch is most excited about Hollioake's bowling, which he believes could improve dramatically in the next year or two, given the tendency for the best fast bowlers to put on a yard of pace in their early

"He has got a lot of ability. It is not really conductive to fast bowling here, but you can see he has got pace and he should get quicker. He is making progress and this coming season at Surrey is going to be a big one. We'd like him to start turning in the performances." Hollioake has taken the

message to heart. He is look-

and, in particular, at his sensational one-day innings against Australia last year. "I had a fair bit of luck in that knock," he admitted. "There is a lot of improving to do.

"If my batting and bowling are going to develop, I'm going to have to get fitter. I know that after the last game [the second international, in which Hollioake played a large part in England's victory, especially when you are playing in countries like this."

Hollioake maintained that he has always worked at his game when he needed to, but he is believed to have absorbed criticisms of his initial approach to practice and prepa-

ration here. There was a team run that he chose to sit out by the hotel swimming pool. "Gatt would probably like me to work harder," he said. What is clear is that there

are unlikely to be further Test appearances until he has performed consistently with bat and ball. This, too, he has acknowledged by setting himself targets. He wants two hundreds and 15 wickets in these A internationals and 1,000 first-class runs and 50 wickets this summer.

It may not please the tabloid headline writers that he may largely stay out of the spotlight for the next six months, but, in the long term, it could be to everyone's advantage.

said. The voluntary code is

The code, signed by the

administrators of most high-

profile sports, pledges to include terrestrial television.

on a minimum basis of extend-

involving significant events.

ed highlights, in all deals

The BBC's case is that it has

not yet acquired any rights to

the World Cup because the

ECB dealt directly with

BSkyB. Blake, however,

more than satisfied."

ECB accused over TV rights

ENGLISH cricket, engaged in a prolonged attempt to free Test match television rights from the controversial listing procedures, is having to counter untimely allegations of misconduct from the BBC over the handling of rights for the 1999 World Cup. Jonathan Martin, the con-

troller of television sport for

the BBC, claimed at a meeting

of the Conservative backbench

media group that the England

BY ALAN LEE

(ECB) has broken the broadcasters' voluntary code in agreeing an £8 million deal with BSkyB, an associate company of News International. owners of The Times.

Yesterday, however, Terry Blake, the marketing director of the ECB, refuted the accusation and insisted that cricket is committed to balanced broadcasting access. "The BBC is wrong on this issue," Blake

Asswers from page 35

CHOLAM (c) A courier or messenger. The Arabic word. The military

household of the king of Persia is composed of a certain number of cavalry, who are called gholams, or staves. The gholams escort the king when he appears in public, or when he leaves the city to hunt."

CORNICHE (c) The road from Nice to Genoa overlooking the Mediterragean. Hence any coastal road with panoramic views. The new comiche road between Athens and Cape Sunion makes an impressive third to compete with the corniche roads of the French Riviera and the

(a) Ground or gramulated noodle dough. Yiddish furful, an adaptation of the Middle High German varietin noodles or noodle 90up.

i ... Bag2+: 2 Kag2 Qh3+: 3 Kxh3 Ng5+ 4 Kg2 Nh4+ 5 Khi g2 checkmate

and Wales Cricket Board points out that the contract with Sky, which has not yet been signed, includes an obligation to subcontract terrestri-WORD-WATCHING

al rights.
This guarantees live terrestrial coverage of 15 World Cup games, including the final and one of the semi-finals, in

(c) A rubber-gatherer. Caucho is the Quechua cauchu rubber, the basis of caout-chouc, any of several varieties of rubber produced in the Amazon basin and Central America.

wonderful corniche road frrom Sorrento to Amalfi."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

than with the ECB, and, after several months of talks, it has failed to agree a price for its slice of the package. As it is the only terrestrial bidder. however, such an agreement

MacLaurin of Knebworth, the chairman of the ECB, met the Special Advisory Group set up to rule on listed events. Cricket's case for the de-listing of home Test matches, allowing freedom of negotiation with satellite and terrestrial channels, had what Blake said was "a sympathetic hearing".

addition to highlights.

The problem has arisen because the BBC is having to negotiate with BSkyB, rather

is sure to follow. Last week, Blake and Lord

10.00 (FM) News; A Good Read. Weren Michel and Victor Adebowsie discuss their levourite paperbacks
10.00 (LW) News; The Daily Service
10.15 (LW) On These Days, with Michel Rosen
10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jainti Murray
11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time. John Custinie, Bob-Rowendew and Pipos Gritanwood answer ouestions posed by walken to the Relitional Museum and Gellery, Cardiff (f)
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mesk Waltster
12.25pm Visiting Julia, Peter Timiserrood's comedy drama starring Keith Barron, Lie Goulding and Stidey Diron (2/6) 12.55 Weether
1.00 World at One, with Nick Clarke.
1.40 The Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Who Singe the Herce Trapped, by Michel Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Who Singe the Herce Trapped, by Michel Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Who Singe the Herce Trapped, by Michel Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Arternoon Shift, with Date Breiter
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Put Gambaccini French (6/6) (f)
3.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Put Gambaccini Reviews the week's new films, including The Reimmaker, John Gristiam's latest countroon.

PRECUENCY GUEDE RADIO 1. FM 97.8-09.8, RADIO 2. FM90.00.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-02.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-094.6; LW 196; MW 720. RADIO 5. LWE. MW 683. SECTIONED SERVICE: MW 648; LW 196 (12.46-5.55cm). CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRIGIN RADIO. FM 105.8 MW 1797, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Descripting as, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane. Gregory and John McNamara.

0800 121 PLEASE QUOTE CODE DISS WHEN CALLING) canadata (re salamandan batan kat pani la 172 dapai Bash di Sankani pia. 1965/35, 151 dengan Sapat Mandatata Mi 95 den many dengandi. orana Malite Merido Fig Street of Ma See of teach year report? E. ...

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ON any amount from \$2,000 up to £15,000 - for almost any purpose. £68.75_{0.00} Repayments guaranteed not to rise for the eather man of your loop. will get you £3,000 Enjoy the security of deating with one of the U.K.'s most respected buries. ..and the benetics of dealing direct ~ pend, contenience and lower £110.83_{pm} Take advantage of Louisians, a low cost protection package statist covers your repayments if you are upable to. £5,000 One free phone call gets it all! Rem this is an exclusive other not available through any Royal Bank of Scotland branch. £165.62pm SEE HOW WE COMPARE A 54,000 Leve | Sept. £7,500 18.5% 19481 55.693 80 1986 30 12.5% 1987 13.922 8 142.69 18.5% 196.67 15.300 20 13.986 £220.83pm 000,013 The Royal Bank
of Scotland Code D63 settled down for last night's Omnibus (BBCI) confident in

Boncard's own brand of slightly

I finished Eleanor Yule's film,

however, eager to join the queues

myself, which must be a sign of a

accented voiceover, "I have some

very sad news for you... This

sort of stuff always reminds me of

those terrible films, where you tick

off the historical characters as they introduce themselves to each oth-

er. "Byron, this is Shelley. Shelley,

Byron. Mary, I think you

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (48459)

7.00 BBC Breeklast News (T) (35633)

9.25 Change That In Devizes (8531362)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (2558633)

10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (9384275)

11.35 What Would You Do? (3143985)

12.05 pm Call My Bluff (1467324)

12.35 Going for a Song (6984904)

1.00 News (T) and weather (88332)

1.30 Regional News (T) (71940527)

1.40 The Weather Show (37926427)

2.55 Racing from Ascot Continued from BSC2 The 3.05 Cornet and Sony Chase

3.45 The Femiliy Neas (5712817) 3.50 ChuckleVision (4410459) 4.10 Get Your

7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Russell Grant and Mystic Meg chellenge Richard Cawley and Patrick Arithony (4614)

7.30 Tomorrow's World From the

8.00 The Cruise: First Night Nerves Jane Ireals herself to a makeover at the

8.30 Points of View with Barbara Windsor (1)

(497362)
8.45 The National Lottery Draw Includes a report from the Milennium Dome (1) (487585)

9.00 News (T) and weather (6050)

sketches (f) (T) (68898) 9.59 National Lottery Update (586527)

10.00 The X Files: Zero Sum Skinner is forced

to cover up the death of a woman

attacked by a swarm of bees, and finds himself trained for her murder (1) (443695)

Prostitute: Jose in the last of the series. Esther, Rantzenmeets a 60-year-old lady of the night who

looks back over her career (1) (897121) WALES: 10.45 The State: Profile of Bryn

Yernin (897121) 11.15 Prostitute (827362) 11.45 Aurille's Sporting Bloomers (826833) 12.15em News

Chris Penn and Elien Burstyn, and

Fairytale: A True Story, etarring Peter O'Toole and Harvey Kallel (T) (827362)

Japan v Great Britain; men's and women's Ice hockey (46603411)

(4665385)
11.15 Film '98 with Barry Norman New releases reviewed include in and Out starting Kevin Kline, Liar with Tim Roth,

11.45 Weather (289614)
11.50 Olympic Grandstand Men's curing:

VideoPins+ and the Video PiusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme testing are Video PireCode." numbers, which records allow you to programme your video records interrity with a VideoPireCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPireCode for the programme you wish to record. Videopire + ""). PireCode (")

Tomorrow's World Live Event at Birmingham's NEC (1) (904)

hairdresser, while Dale and Mary enjoy a

romantic raiting trip in Jamaica (1) (3362)

Reynoldstown Novices' Chase (1941275).

Own Back (6010985) 4.35 The Wild House (6906140) 5.00 Newsround (1)

17465324) 5.10 Blue Peter (1) (4751695)

and 3.35 HSBC James Capal

1.45 Neighbours (T) (21665546)

5.35 Reighbours (1) (T) (437614)

6.00 News (I) and weather (140)

6.30 Regional News (T) (492)

2.10 Petrocelli (r) (8463411)

9.00 All Over the Shop (8529527)

9.50 Kilroy (T) (2532)69)

12.00 News (T) (8368695)

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Each film costs \$2.99 per viewing SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 29)

She's the Ora (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59). The Prencher's Wile (1996) Ine Prescher's Wile (1996) SKYBOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Repsem Heam SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

had spent his life painting Marthe Bonnard was on second-name with her clothes on the queues at the Tate Gallery would be nothing like as long as they are going to be. That's what comes of reading too many Sunday supplements, I suppose, which have been full of

my view that if Pierre Bonnard us that Marthe was dead and that

To a psychoanalyst. He stared intently at one of those alarming self-portraits that the supplements either leave out or just squeeze in after 27 pictures of Marthe sans kit. Eventually he prenounced.

"It's only when she dies that he realises what an impoverished life he's been leading with her." And there was I thinking it was just a job well done. Yet it had all started so impromisingly. "My Dear Ma-tisse..." began a heavily French

served the dual purpose of telling

Whether he was right is, like: most things in art, debatable, but it provided Yule with the basis for her film, which set out to show that beyond all that colour and light there was something darker. Bonnard, we were told, was an artist "haunted by memory which would certainly explain why, when Marthe was approaching 70, he still painted her as having the body

6.10em What's All This Fuss About IT?

7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (7 and

7.15 Record Breakers Gold (1) (1) (19850)

7.45 Olympic Grandstand Ski jumping,

8.45 The Record (6879430) 9.10 Short Circuit

(2881481) 9.30 Voces Españolas (4496463) 9.45 Words and Pictures

(944698) 10.00 Telefubbies (r) (98614) 10.30 Numbertime (3076140) 10.45 Cats' Eyes (3071695) 11.00 Around Scotland (5510362) 11.20 The

Geography Programme (1) (6234169) 11.40 Job Bank (5320508) 11.50 Moving

to English (2295237) 12,10pm Science in

women take on favourites Canada

12.30 Ohmpic Grandstand featuring freestyle sking, 12.45 Women's Ice Hockey. America v Financi 1.30 Curling: Britain's

2.10 Racing from Ascot The 2.30 Shenley Enterprises Handicap Hurdle. Continues

2.55 News (1) (8844508) 3.00 Westminster (1)

(8289817) 3.55 News (T) regional news and weather (5788701) 4.00 Real Rooms

(f) (5765850) 4:25 Ready, Steady, Cook (5775237) 4:55 Esther: Getting Married

(4335940) 5.30 Today's the Day (169)

6.00 Star Treic The Next Generation Data

poes up in smoke (r) (T) (760411)

6.45 A Little Later with Jools Holland (r)

7.00 Olympic Grandstand Highlights from

8.30 The Travel Show Dubal and Seville

year-old beauty queens undergoing

Chief Constable Pollard (9.50pm)

pionearing project from the Thames Valley Police. Last in series (914508)

12.30am Learning Zone: Our Invisible Sun (13763) 1.00 Newton's Revolution

(19095) 1.30 The Physics of Bell Games (57744) 2.00 Special Needs (30657) 4.00

Under the Sun (25805) 5.00 Business and Training (77522) 5.30 20 Steps to

Better Management (3778928) 5.45 Body Plans (3283909)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (967985)

12.00 The Midnight Hour (42763)

11.15 On Air (651072)

11.55 Weather (278508).

The Force: Mr Pollard's Big Idea David Rose reports on a

Last in series (r) (T) (457237)

competition (73527)

. à.o.a È

the fifth day including the K90 individual

ski jumping event; freestyle skiing and Britain v Canada in the curling

Under the Sun: Painted Bables Report on the five

ing, the luge, ice hockey, curling, estyle skiing (159940)

signing) (3224492)

Action (1) (1464140)

(27453985)

Anyway, after the letter had of a 25-year-old. Dorian Gray, I felt, had the better deal.

And that's assuming it was Marthe's body he was thinking abterms with Matisse, we moved on. out at the time. It could have been Renée, the much younger woman whom he loved and proposed to and who shot herself when Bonpard, for reasons that were never fully explained, suddenly went back to Marthe. One person thought it was because he couldn't maint without her, another because he was concerned about her poor state of health, which coupled lifelong asthma with mild paranoia.

'ule's film covered an enjoyably wide body of Bonnard's work, but those rude nudes were not forgotten. Christopher Hampton, writer, director and expert on anything involving France and sex, mulled over their sensual appeal. "It's the privacy that makes them erotic. Everything is somehow veiled ... in a

HTV

9.25 Win. Lose or Draw (1) (8517782)

9.55 Regional News (1) (9984633)

10.00 The Time, The Place (85140)

10.30 This Morning (T) (58126950)

12.20pm Regional News (8372898)

12,55 Shortland Street (6955492)

1.50 Crosswits (21548879)

3.20 News (T) (5618898)

(1) (6552188)

12.30 News (1) and weather (6970701)

1,25 Home and Away (T) (70954140)

2.20 Chef School Teacher Emma shows the students how to make a cake (9271 1324)

2.50 Vanessa: Married to a Miser (1)

3.25 Regional News and weather (5617169)

3.30 Tota TV (1652362) 3.40 The Blobs

Winnie the Pooh (4496879) 4.15

5.10 WALES: Moneyspinners (T) (5233275)

5.10 Yan Can Cook Fast Food of Belling (r)

7.00 Emmerdale Tony Caims's Activity Centre

Steve and Jim come to blows (7.30pm)

Richie's deception; and Jim (Charles Lawson) and Steve (Simon Gregson) are at loggerheads once more (T) (512)

a charred body turn out to be those of a

millionaire unexpectedly cleared of murder, Superintendent Tyburn has to decide whether the cases are connected.

With Trevor Eve, Susannah Harker and Michael Byrne (T) (3/3) (1614)

10.40 The Big Match: England v Chile Bob Wilson presents highlights from Wembley (five on satellite) (715459)

11.40 Tropical Heat Turning Screws Nick

12.30mm Parker Kene (1989) Jeff Fahey and Marisa Tome star in this tale about an uncoventional private eye who stumbles across a toxic waste-dumping ring.

Directed by Steve Perry (185657)

3,30 The Time, The Place (r) (1) (3753454)

2,30 If I Were You (r) (7429385)

4.25 ITV Nightscreen (4424522)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (91396)

4,05 Cybernet (52275589)

5.30 News (47218)

3.05 Scotland's Larder (54321305)

goes undercover as an art thiel (724492)

10.00 News (T) and weather (48546)

10.30 Regional News (277625)

Heat of the Sun: The Sport of Kings When the remains of

7.30 Coronation Street Des discovers

5.40 News (1) and weather (310508)

6.25 Regional Weather (354343)

6.30 Regional News (T) (188)

is launched (1) (9782)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (1) (720237)

(5799966) 3.50 The New Adventures of

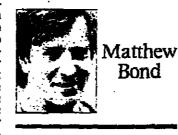
Animentacs (1) (6004324) 4,40 Whitziwig

6.00am GMTV (5739701)



Portrait of the artist haunted by memory

العلامن الاحل



rather interesting way." Quite a lot, of course, is somehow unveiled, but I took the point. With Picasso's damning criticism of Bonnard's style as " a potpourri of indecision" echoing down the years and others arguing about his ability to paint a moment", Yule's film both captured and contributed to the current excitement surrounding the artist, I, however, was distracted

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (8355432):

12.40em Film: See No Evil, Hear No Evil

(1989) A comedy starring Flohard Pryor and Gene Wilder as handicapped news

vendors on the run after being acquised of

murder Directed by Arthur Hiller: 439253

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5233275):

5 25.7 00 Central News (941455).

3.05 Scotland's Larder (54321305)

3.30 The Time, the Place (3763454)

4.30 Central Jobfinder '98 (8333855)

12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (2354879)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5233275)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (41121)

11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (724492)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5233275)

6.30-7.00 Birdwatch with Chris Packham

MERIDIAN

6.00 Meridian Tonight (508)

11.40 Highlander (724492)

As HTV West except:

5.00am Freescreen (91396)

ANGLIA

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8376614)

12.55-1.25 Surprise Chats (6955492)

6.23 Anglia Weather (355072)

6.25-7.00 Angila News (941459)

10.29 Anglia Air Watch (257527)

11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (724492)

SIC

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (31169)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (28343)

1.00 Stot Meithrin (11708343)

1.30 The Three Stooges (81479850)

1.50 Film: Cottage to Let (69328966)

1.15 Sgerbyde (11703898)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (966)

4.00 Eiffenn-In-One (701)

4,30 Countdown (985)

5,00 5 Pump (1561188)

5.30 Shop Till You Drop (237)

6.00 Newyddion (184411)

7.00 Pobol y Cwm (657237)

5,15 Pieli (7477169)

6.10 Heno (775343)

8.00 Pacio (6072)

10.35 ER (793237)

11,30 Frasier (89966)

7.25 Přermio (845121)

8.30 Newyddion (2879)

9.00 Cutting Edge (8904)

12,00 Under the Moon (4548980)

4.30am-4.55 Screaming Reels (65475183)

9.00 Ysgolion (511362)

11.30 Powerhouse (3576)

12.00 Rickl Lake (45459) 12.30pm Sesame Street (64072)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5233275)

As HTV West except:

12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (6965492)

WESTCOUNTRY.

4.05 Cybernet (52259541)

5.20 Asian Eve (1868522)

As HTV West except:

11.40 Midnight Caller (724492)

mentioned Bonnard apparently lived in a succession of modest houses, but always insisted on them having a balcony and french windows. A good rule for life.

Bonnard apart, last night's tele-

vision was preny much as normal

stuff: more supermodels or more car crashes. What they unexpectedly had in common was truculent teenagers. Truculent teenager number one was Charlotte, one of the so-called stars of Inside Story: Dazzied (BBCl), a breathtakingly unambitious piece of reportage that really had no place in a series purporting to be inside anything. It had also been fairly seriously pre-empted by TTV's Babewatch.

But back to Chariotte, who slouched across the casting couches of New York Fashion Week in a manner familiar to anybody with experience of teenagers. Or any-body who's watched Harry Enfield, come to that. Nah, she didn't

by something his great-nephew know what she'd do if she didn't make it as a model. She had mucked up her GCSEs and had never been much good at school. As she had just done 12 shows in seven days and shared her first catwalk with Kate Moss and Naomi Campbell, she could probably afford to slouch. "She's the 'it' girl," said the same helpful designer who'd earlier got me terribly confused as he explained the new

look. We're calling it 'the edge':

that's a pretty way of saying ugly."

The girls were not depressing, but the programme's unimaginative approach was. Christopher Olgiati, the director, had negotiated access with just one agency, Storm, which allowed him to flick through their book from top (Kate Moss) to bottom (14-yearold Sian, a would-be wannabe) without surprising us once. Under-age models, thin models, fat models, unsuccessful models, models on heroin . . . the end.

Truculent teenager number two was Julie reluctant star of Crash (ITV), the third programme to bear that title in as many weeks. Julie had come close to being killed, when a car driven by her uninsured poyfriend crashed into trees. Problem? She still loved him. Her nearest and dearest did not.

Following the story and consequences of one particular crash was at least a novel idea, but the film was badly flawed - being tortuously slow at times and highhanded in its treatment of the boyfriend who hadn't co-operated with its making. He may have looked surly and had a hairstyle that bordered on the criminal, but that's no excuse for leading us to believe (for two thirds of the film) that he was a drunk-driver, when a blood sample las was eventually admitted) showed an alcohol level well below the legal limit. That's the law. This was a lynch-mob.

PART GHANTED SERVICE

CHANNEL 4 6.00am Sesame Street (31169)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (28343) 9.00 Schools: TV - Friend or Fee? (25695) 9.30 Good Health (T) (6191891) 9.45 Book Box (T) (7846184) 10.00 Stage Two Science (T) (4182237) 10.15 Rai-a-Tat-Tal (4105188) 10,30 The French Programme (T) (9562966) 10.50 Stcp. Look, Listen (T) (8278879) 11.00 First Edition IV (6218121) 11.15 The Mox (T)

(623:072) 12.30pm Light Lunch (72256)

Sicney Gilliat (55826625) 3.10 The Sandcastle Oscar-winning

animation (1940508) 3.30 Collectors' Lot objects connected with Madagascar, a Barry Manilow fan and information about pearls (T) (966) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (701) 4.30 Countdown (T) (6907879) 4.55 Ricki Lake Divorcees who want to remany their former partners (T) (2535968) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (237)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (251633) 7.55 Raw Talent Kimberley Oliver, who plays rugby for Chippenham under-13s (3/4) (1) (721546) 8.00 Brookside Max is angry with Susannah

risits another two amateur cooks (6/14)



9.00 ER: Ground Zero Greene's behaviour is out of control. Ross suffers a family tragedy. Dr Carter's background is discovered. With Anthony Edwards and George Clooney (T) (8904) 10.00 in Exile Comedy about a deposed African leader living in exile in St John's Wood Mukata needs urgent assistance when his visiting mother threatens to stay

Isabella Rossellini makes Ross's day. Phoebe introduces her half-brother to city

life (r) (T) (22508) 11.00 The Mark Thomas Comedy Product Current affairs with a comic touch (4/6)

5.00 in Conversation With Henry Bioleid talks to Tony Greig (r) (91378) 5.30 Schools: Science in Focus (9013102) 5.56 Sesame Street (9023589)

11.36 Powerhouse Political magazine (T) (3576) 12.00 Sesame Street (45459)

1.30 Left, Right and Centre (1959, b/w) lan Carmichael and Patricia Bredin in a romantic political comedy directed by

6.00 Party of Five Rites of passage comedy 6.50 Fresh Pop (482850)

for telling Julia about the baby. Office is concerned by Eleanor's reunion with 8.30 TV Dinners Hugh Feamley-Whitingstall



Nosh Wyle is found out (9.00pm)

a little longer (5/7) (T) (46188) 10.30 Friends: The One With Frank Jr

11.30 Moviewatch (r) (T) (89966) 12.00 Under the Moon Interactive sports

magazine (4548980) 4.30am Screaming Reels Angling series (r) (1) (25657)

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. ers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10,92075 GHz, sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (7271459)

7.00 Movie Cate (r) (4922343) 7.30 Milkshakel (7610362) 7.35 Havakazoo Wimzie's House (r) (8582546) **8.00** Havakazpo (r) (7139782) 8.30 WideWorld: The Japanese school

system (T) (7138053) 9.00 Espresso (8049430) 10.00 Flight to Freedom (r) (T) (2065506) 10.30 Sunset Beach (T) (3477850) 11.10 Leeza (2595527)

12.00 5 News (T) (7149169) 12.30pm Family Attairs (r) (T) (7197508) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautitul (T) (4921614) 1.30 The Great Garden Game (r) (T) (7196879) 2.00 Beauty and the Beast (2066237) 3.00 100 Per Cent Gold (1391985)

3.30 Battling for Baby (1991) with Suzanne Plesheffe, Debbie Reynolds and Courteney Cox Family comedy about a nursery that becomes a battleground for two doting grandmothers. Directed by Art. Wolff (6734985)

5.30 Exclusive Sara Cox takes a look at stars who end up in prison (4528430) 6,00 100 Per Cent (4525343)

6.30 Family Affairs Annie decides not to tell Chris about the baby (T) (4516695) 7.00 5 News (T) (1383966)

7.30 Flight to Freedom: Which Come First Documentary looking at the different ways in which ostriches bring up their

young (T) (4512879) 8.00 The Pepsi Chart Chart show presented

by Rhona Mitra and MTV videojockey Eddy Temple-Morris (1392614) 8.30 Food Fight Cornedy food quiz hosted by Cox and Henry Navior lorned by tonight's guests Nancy Lam and John Craven (1371121)



Lindsay Frost as Bambi (9.00pm)

Controversial drama about the alleged 9.00 The Heart of the Lie (1991) murderess Laune "Bambi" Bernbenek With Lindsay Frost, John Gamer and Tim Busfield. Directed by Noel Nosseck (1) (63556237)

10.40 The Jack Docherty Show The guests include Richard Briers (8542695) 11.25 Movie Cafe with Julia Bradbury (r)

11.55 Live and Dangerous Sports magazine with Todd Macklin introducing the best in American sports (45101256) 5.30am 100 Per Cent (i) (8004367)

TRAVEL (CABLE)

the Yellowstone Wolves (9251071) 9,00 First Emperor of China (9156427) 10,00 New Chimparices (806364) 11,00 Lind and Legend of Jane Goodall (7865508) 12,00 Alyeska (1769657) 1,00am Close

12.00 Travel Live 1.00 Floyd On Cz 1.30 Seyond Borders 2.00 Snow Satari 2.30 Great Escape 3.00 Reel World 3.30 Cocana 4.00 Ribbons Ol Stiel 4.30 Revours Of France 5.00 Innocent Abroad 5.30 Reshary Adventures 6.00 Ridge Riders 6.30 On Tour 7.00 Travel Live 8.00 Pathfinder: 8.30 Floyd On Cz 8.00 Granger's World 10.00 Great Escape 10.30 A Forn in The Road 11.00 Worldwide Guide 11.30 Ridge Riders

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm No Price Too High (1196695) 5.00 People's Plague (8610782) 5.00 Ambert Mysteres (1225343) 7.00 Biography: Jo-seph P Kennedy (9241492) 8.00 Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

• For further listings sec-Saturday's Vision SKY1

wish to record. Videoplus+ (*) and Video Programmer are Gemater Development Ltd.

7.60km Steer Stinds (53053) 7.50 Surep in the Night (2562459) 7.45 The Simpsons (50121) 8.15 Oprah (636886) 9.00 Hotel (12345) 10.00 Another World (\$1072) 11.00 Days of Our Links (\$5505) 12.00 Menhad with Children (\$6505) 12.30 pain MrA-S*11 (\$5565) 1.00 Geratio (\$3721) 2.00 Set/16565) 1.00 Geratio (\$3721) 2.00 Set/166 (\$7362) 4.00 Oprah [21817) 5.00 Set/1786 (\$7362) 4.00 Oprah [21817) 5.00 Set/1786 Ned Generation (1633) 6.00 Decam Teterr (\$189] 6.30 Menhed with Children (2140) 7.00 The Simpsonts (2362) 7.30 Red TV (\$322) 8.00 Space Island One (40430) 6.00 The Children (2140) 7.00 The Simpsonts (2362) 7.30 Red TV (\$323) 8.00 Space Island One (40430) 6.00 The Children (27065) 10.00 Millerdium (\$0553) 11.00 Sea Treic Next Generation (\$2701) 12.00 Late Show (17164) 1.00 sea In the Heat of the Night (26473) 2.00 Long Play (\$333559) (12546) 10,00 Another World (61072) 11.00

SKY BOX OFFICE

Metro (1996) SKY 80% OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)

SKY MOVIES SCHEER

5.00mm Meeting, Vacuar (1991) (50979)

8.00 The Hostinge Tower (1990) (53985)

10.00 Paris: in the Sides (1990) (21275)

11.20 A Little Princess (1995) (4912250)

11.50pm The Burdry System (1994)

(44498450) 2.00 Partic in the Sides (1995) (48072) 5.00 Theodore Rev (1995) (75514) 7.00 A Little Princess (1995) (68665) 9.00 When the Credie Falls (1997) (13898) 10.30 Lying Syes (1995) (8369966) 2210mm A Piece of the Assion (1977) (77829838) 2.25 Dullaris Over Breachesy (1994) (83270) 4.05 The Hostinge Tower (1996) (218098)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 5.35am Oragon Tolk (1959) (7447237) 5.00 Capatosin Affair (1957) (37527) 10.00 Sex and the Single Cirt (1954) (97224) 12.00 Mayday at 40,000 Foot (1975) (10850) 2.00pm Payment on

Denmed (1851) (952904) 3.50 Daildy Ling Lege (1955) (17070224) 6.00 Obed-digger's Daughter (1897) (97237) 3.00 Hackers (1995) (44255) 10.00 Mary Reitly (1996) (23633) 11.50 Colabicodof (1994) (803989) 1.25am Str Degree I Separation (1993) (913929) 3.20 The Lucidian (1990) (902928) 5.00 Store-legys on the Ark (9500812)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00gm The Lady Ere (1941) (78543545) 5.95 (Ibinet U (1982) (24228527) 8.10 Flashback (1990) (65082904) 10.00 Days of Thumder (1990) (47522377) 11.55 Prestout (1975) (1877500 4.35em St Louis Blone (1968) (9084631) 3.10 The Caterman Westand (1963) (6303947)

2.00pm The Dirty Dozen (1967) (57842459) 11.90 The Honger (1963) (53045935) 1.75em Boom Town (1960) (3739483) 3.15 Village of Deughters (1962) (29700724) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00em Sports Centre (\$2035) 7.30 Wresting (34548) 8.30 Sports Centre (\$2355) 7.30 Wresting (34548) 8.30 Sports Centre (\$2355) 9.00 Recing News (74614) 8.30 Aerobics (\$6273) 10.00 Footballars' Football Show (18904) 11.00 Tansn Etra (5468) 11.30V Mex (55889) 12.00 Aerobics (94850) 12.30pm I2:1 Football (80272) 2.30 Sports Unimited (8641) 3.30 Tanta Etra (5546) 4.00 Footballars' Football Show (88121) 5.00 Wresting (3169) 5.00 Sports Centre (1450) 8.30 Futbal Mundial (\$732) 7.00 Golf Edra (10289) 10.00 Sports Centre (1450) 8.30 Futbal Mundial (\$732) 71.00 Trans World Sport (1983) 12.00 Sports Centre (17015) 12.30ma Football (\$2102) 2.30 Futbal Mundial (\$7454) 3.00 Sports Centre (13047) 3.30 Closs (13917) 3.30 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Acrobias (1572508) 7.30 Sports Centra (1584343) 8.00 Racing (8535965) 8.30 Fish TV (8128430) 8.30 Sports Unimited (7336986) 10.30 ica Hockey (4667121) 1.00em Survival of the Fitnes (1571876) 1.30 Pro Seach Soccar (575840) 2.30 Golf Bora (8030140) 8.30 Golfer's Travels (4604904) 6.00 Websitsports World (1225343) 7.00 Live Football (7716091) 10.30 Extra Tur Golf Weddy (8618121) 11.00 Golfer's Travels (187324) 11.50 Golf Edna (8721053) 2.30em Sports Centra (1871631) 8.06 Closo

12.00pm Wresting (71576275) 1.00 Fish 1V [71552695] 2.00 Superbouts (24639698) 3.00 Olympic Destintes (13560817) 3.30 Polo (80579255) 4.30 Indoor Athletics (83720459) 6.30 Euro Tour Golf Weekly (19041324) 7.00 Fish TV (51673091) 8.00 Sport USA (55422411) 9.30 Rebal Sports (71577904) 10.00 Cue Masters (80173940) 10.30 Golden Age of Motor Recing (89623695) 11,20 Close

SKY SPORTS 3

EUROSPORT_

EUROSPORT

6.30am Live Women's Luge (65324) 7.00
Live Women's Speed Stading (51430) 8.30
Siding (65324) 10.00 Beatrion (42512)
11.00 Six-Jumpang (65091) 12.30pam Live
Women's toe Hockey (65343) 1.30 Freestyle Staing (47430) 2.00 Bischiton (67885)
4.00 Staing (68817) 5.00 Olympic Bars
(2430) 5.30 Women's Luge (18382) 6.30
Women's Speed Stating (7856) 7.00
Beatrion (82430) 2.00 Sto-Jumping (68650)
9.00 Women's toe Hockey (60010450)
10.45 Olympic Special (270548) 11.00
Staing (92071) 12.00 Live Cross-County
Staing (92057) 3.00 Live Cross-County
Staing (92071) 12.00 Live Cross-County
Staing (92057) 3.00 Live Cross-County
Staing (92057) 3.00 Stain Live Showboarding
(99657) 3.00 Showboarding (93102)
LIK (GOLD) UK GOLD

7.00em Wozel Gutmindge Down Linder (2137986) 7.35 Neighborgs (685263) 8.00 Crossroads (839459) 8.25 EastEnders (1780343) 9.00 The Ed (850596) 9.30 Howards' Way (8953409) 10.00 Home to Roost (3110686) 10.30 The Subhans (2594850) 11.00 Boon (2260430) 12.00 Crossroads (87477269) 12.25pm Neighbours (87477363) 12.65 EestEnders (87470343) 12.65 EestEnders (87470343) 13.65 EestEnders (87470343) 13. Concern Author's (8973289) 8.20 Zpom4 Chairso (1263072) 9.00 Taggan (8346411) 11.05 Line At Jongieur (836862) 11.40 Maised Video (85-6273) 12.10em Spitting Image (6073522) 12.40 Frankle's Mouse (55-7580) 1.35 Equalizar

GRANADA PLUS

6,00mm The Box (\$394121) 7.00 El Model

(83396) 2.25 Shopong (10872298)

Sendbaggers (5513411) 11.00 Huwell Five O (5533275) 12.00 Cordination St (7337943) 12.30pm Families (8339701) 1.00 Watch-

5.00 The Professorias (ministor) was Parmiles (7588072) 6.30 Coronanon St. (7569324) 7.00 Powet (2207237) 8.00 London's Burning (2216985) 9.00 Corona-tion St. (8115188) 9.30 Cornedians (8268237) 10.00 The Professorials (2208508) 11.00 Granada Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT (CABLE) 5.00pm Gridlock (13547966) 5.30 Hay Dad B (19058091) 6.00 Blockbusters (19065904)

DISNEY CHANNEL 6.00mm Under the Umbrella Tres 6.30 Telesper 7.00 Mighty Ducks 7.30 Gargoyles



SATELLITE AND CABLE

ing (5537091) 1.30 Agony (8338072) 2.00 Point (5051250) 3.00 London's Burning (8107168) 4.00 Heaval Fave-O (8119904) 5.00 The Professionals (5918430) 6.00

I (1906931) 6,00 Biochousters (1906904) 6,30 A Country Practice (1906565) 7,06 London Bridge (13550430) 7,30 Switch On (19045140) 8,00 Rude Health (1353985) 8,30 Cookinght Sweethard (1355995) 8,00 Gone to the Oogs (51551878) 18,00 Snowy (51654966) 11,00 SI Eisewhere (43045121) 12,00 Collins and Macono's Move Club (89691386) 12,30am Talos of the Unaspecied (55484251) 1,00 Close

8.00 Ter Avery 8.00 Terron and Pumbes 9.00 Sesame St 10.00 Winne the Posh 10.15 Small Stories 10.20 Roce and Jim 10.35 Sing Me a Story with Balle 11.00 Microscopic Milton 11.05 Tots TV 11.25 Its Fun to Learn with Spot 11.40 Big Garage 11.56 Alphabet Castle 12.15pm Amazing Armels 12.45 Winne the Pool: 1.00 Sesame Speet 2.00 Jungle Cats 2.30 Chp N° Date 3.05 Timon and Pumbas 3.30 Racess 3.45 Men in Block 4.15 Recess 4.30 New Doug 6.00 Smart Guy 6.30 Student Bodies 8.00 Boy Meets Violid 6.30 Home Improvement 7.00 Fel.34 Phileses Home Improvement 7,00 FLM: Prince Stallion (1996) 8.30 Dinosaus 9.00 Touched by an Angel 10.00 Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Preier Rangers Zeo 6.25 Crazy Crow 6.30.Power Rangers Zeo 7.00 Casper 7.30 Mortal Kombat 6.00 Goosetums 8.30 Masted Ridar 9.00 Magre 869 9.30 Busine Macra 2000 Magic Box Vall Dudley the Oragen 10.00 Princeton 10.25 Catey Crow 10.30 Peter Pan 10.55 Why Why Family 11.00 Olote Twest 11.25 Dodo 11.30 Houldebery Firm 11.35 Why Why Family 12.00 Guilwars Taxels 12.25 pan Dodo 12.30 X Men 1.09 Spoterman 1.30 Tron Man 2.00 Fartasht Four 2.25 Dodo 2.30 Power Rangers Zeo 3.00 Big Bas Scetteborgs 3.30 Mesked Rider 4.00 Are Venture 4.30 Casper 5.00 Goosebumps 5.30 Y Men 6.00 Spiderman 6.30 The Tick TCC

6.00mm Hepply Ever After 6.30 Romusid the Reindeer 7.00 Spirou 7.30 Dennis the Menace 8.00 Barman 9.00 Earthworn Jim 8.30 Beverly Hills Feers 10.00 Occur's Orchestra 10.30 Fash Gordon 11.00 Enrogoud 11.30 Egantor 12.00 Spirou 12.30 pm Beverly Hill Teens 1.00 Barman 1.90 A/s Time Trayellus 2.00 Enrogoud 2.30 Fash Gordon 3.00 Eigenior 3.30 Ethourom Jim 4.00 Dennis the Menace 4.30 Ratman 8.00 Corse 4.30 Salman 5.00 Cinse CARTOON NETWORK

All your terrounte carmons broadcast from 5.00cm to 9.00pm, seven days a week NICKELODEON

5.00em Court Duckula 6.30 Ren and Stropy 7.00 Angry Beavers 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 Doug 8.30 Annur 9.00 CBBC 10.00 Warran's Hause 10.30 Babar 11.00 Magic School Bus 11,30 PB Sear etc 12,00 Rugrats 12,30pm Blues Clues 1,00 Clangers 1,30 Mupper Bables 2,00 Fraggle Rock 2.30 Alvin 3.06 Jumany 2.30 Doug 4.00 Hey Amoid: 4.30 Azahi Real Monsters 5.00 Rugrats 5.30 Sister Sister 6.00 Sebrina the Tesnage Vition 6.30 Morena 7.00 Close TROUBLE

12.00pm Sazin's Crossing 12.30 Sated 1.00 Etho Point 1.30 Hearbreak High 2.00 Sazed by the Bell 2.30 Sazin's Crossing 3.00 Bizst 3.30 Hearbreak High 4.00 Hollypaks 4.20 Saziet by the Bell 5.00 U.SA High 8.30 Sweat 6.00 Eatro Point 6.30 Blast 7.00 USA High 7.20 Hollyoaks 8.00 Close CHALLENGE TV

5,00pm Fitter-to-One 5.50 Family For-tures 6.30 Catchphrase 7.05 Blockhusters 7.30 Give Us a Clue 8.00 All Clued Up 8.30 This case US a Case according to the Century 10.00 Treesure Hunt 11.15 3-2-1 12.30mm Moonlighting 1.30 The Big Velley 2.30 Zorro 3.00 The Byrds of Peracise 4.00 Mighty Jurgis 4.39 Zorro 5.00 Scienshop BRAVO

8.00per A-Team (8208275) 9.00 Tout of Duty (8298411) 10.00 The Besement (251327) 10.30 Red Stoe Disnes (2520275) 11.00 Fibit RR and Ted's Excellent Adventure (1985) (2627643)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Grace Under Fre (514C) 7.30 Roseanne (6508) 8.00 Kenny Everett (1183) 8.30 Caronne in the Cay (4445) 9.00 Chiest (65275) 9.30 Ellen (48165) 10.00 Frasser (93121) 10.30 Alexes Sayle's Stuff (19169) 11.00 Armstong & Miller (37452) 11.30 Grace Under Fire (81362) 12.00 Ellen (15557) 12.30am Nurses (7799) 1.00 Chiest (91725) 1.30 Roseanno (39473) 2.00 Caroline of the Cay (61589) 2.30 Armstrong & Miller (40096) 3.00 Fraser (11589) 3.30 Kerny Everett (64676)

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WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1998

Yates bides his time over appeal against verdict

By MARK SOUSTER

KEVIN YATES is unlikely to decide whether to launch an appeal against his six-month ban for biting the ear of Simon Fenn, the London Scottish flanker, until next week at the earliest. The Bath and England prop must weigh up the potentially ruinous costs of an appeal against

his stated desire to clear his name. His solicitor. Eddie Parladorio. said that Yates's intention, as stated immediately after he had been found guilty in the early hours of yesterday, was to appeal. After a day of discussions with his advisers and lawyers, that was still the case. "His primary objective is to clear his name." Parladorio said. "He still maintains his innocence, but no one has a bottomless pit of money. The

financial aspect is something we must discuss with Mr Yates, but that is secondary."

Yates, who was found guilty on "the balance of probability", has been ordered to pay London Scottish £20,000 towards their costs, and £3,500 to the Rugby Football Union (RFU). His own legal bill is expected to exceed £25,000.

The ban includes the month he has already served and will run until July II. If an appeal against his suspension fails, Yates will face further hefty costs as well as considerable loss of income from rugby. As part of the England squad, he could have expected realistically to earn a minimum of £15,000 to £20,000 from represent-

ing England over that period.

Clive Woodward, the England

coach, said that Yates's international career was not over. "We have got to go along with the RFU decision. he said. "Quite clearly he cannot be considered until next season unless his appeal is successful. However, I hope he returns fit, in form and available to resume what looked

like being a promising career."

Johan le Roux, of South Africa, who was banned for 19 months for chewing the ear of Sean Fitzpatrick, the New Zealand captain, in 1994, said it would take time for Yates to shed the stigma of his disgrace. Le Roux said: "I have learnt to handle my situation, the public outcry, the suspension itself and the swipes people want to take at you, but it is not easy. Yates needs to understand all that because he now has a reputation, whether he likes or not."

pleased with the outcome, has still to decide whether to seek damages through a civil action. Yates also faces the possibility of criminal proceedings being brought by a member of the public, which is due

Rugby union's minefield Assessing the punishment 37

to be heard at Bath Magistrates'

Court next month. Yates's legal team is still awaiting written confirmation of the threeman RFU disciplinary panel's findbefore deciding on what grounds to base an appeal, which has to be lodged within 14 days. The panel, chaired by Michael Burton

separate sittings spread over seven days considering the evidence relating to the incident, which occurred in a Tetley's Bitter Cup tie between Bath and London Scottish on January 10. Yates remains suspended on full pay by Bath until the club holds its own inquiry, which it cannot do until it knows whether the player is going ahead with an appeal against

the RFU ban.
Yates could face further disciplinary measures for breach of contract, which could range from a fine to dismissal. The RFU suspension does not stop him training or coaching, but he is prevented from doing either by Bath until his future

has been decided. Tom Shepherd, a director of Bath, said: "We have got to put our own

effect it would have on a young man's career. He mist do what he can to rebuild a slightly tarnished reputation." Shepherd suggested that Yates might become involved in coaching in the community until he

can resume playing. Roy Manock, the RFU's disciplinary officer, said that there had been no limit to the punishment Yates could have received. He could have been banned sine die. Answering criticism on the time that it took for the case to be heard, Manock said that the RFU had had its own hearing set for January 21. That had to be postponed after Yates successfully sought an injunction in the prepare his defence.



Yates found guilty

Full house expected to witness Liverpool teenager's England debut against Chile at Wembley

Owen ready to stake claim for World Cup

By OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

LATE last year, Michael Owen sat in the corner of a pub close to the Liverpool training ground sipping a soft drink. He said his aim at the start of the season had been to play a dozen first-team games, but that things had gone so well he had increased the target to two dozen. Tonight, at Wembley, the goalposts that have become a symbol of his young life will be moved

Owen has gone beyond merely establishing himself at Anfield. He has le Karlheinz Riedle and Robbie Fowler in the pecking order there. Tonight, as the focus of an expectant and curious nation, he will become the yourgest player to appear in an England shirt this century. His quest to force himself into Glenn Hoddle's 22-man squad for the World Cup finals in France this summer will have

TIMES

begun in earnest. And so, instead of the 15,000 supporters who dragged themselves to Wembley the last time the visitors tonight, Chile, were the opponents, a full house will be drawn like moths gathering around the flame of

Owen's dazzling light. Part of it, as Hoddle said, is the onset of "World Cup fever": most of it is the desire to witness a piece of football history. The England coach,

> Glenn Hoddle, used to unquestioning deference from many members of his squad ... was letting his praise for Owen run free. It was a eulogy that few have heard spring from his lips before.

Owen's chance.

SSWORD

who announced yesterday that Tony Adams would be restored to the captaincy in place of Paul Ince, said he had reassured Owen that there would be no pressure on him. that he would not carry the can if England performed poorly, that neither supporters nor the massed ranks of the media, suddenly eager for every detail of Owen's adolescence, should expect too much of him. His pleas are likely to

fall on deaf ears. "I am determined to take the pressure off him," Hoddle and off the pitch at the moment and he is a credit to himself and his family, but he has got to have it in his mind that going to the World Cup would be a bonus for him. He has got to treat it like that.

"He has got plenty of things to learn about the game over the next four or five years and he has got the rest of his career to get to other World Cups. I have had a chat with him and he knows he is not going to get the blame if we get a bad result or if he puts one over the bar. He has got a great deal of maturity and I think he will be one who can keep his feet on

the ground." Although only six games remain before the England coach has to decide on his final 22, he stressed vesterday that there are more places up for grabs than people would imagine." Owen, obviously, is striving to grasp one of those spots and it is likely that Hoddle will introduce him at half-time, or soon after, and give him a chance to play first with Teddy Sheringham and later with the returning Alan Shearer. Fitness permitting, Shearer, Sheringham, Paul Scholes and Ian Wright are all likely to make the World Cup squad, leaving Owen to battle for the final place with Andy Cole, Fowler, Les Ferdinand and Dion Dublin.

As Hoddle tried in vain to divert attention away from the Liverpool prodigy, he said he had chosen Adams as his captain because he was satisfied that his recent seven-day sojourn at a health clinic in the south of France had rid him of the injury fatigue that had started to dog the autumn of his career and had cost him the captaincy for the decisive World Cup qualifier against Italy in October.

sympathise with the plight of Adams after fighting a prolonged battle of his own some years ago to overcome an

Hoddle said that he could



Achilles tendon problem. He said that the Arsenal captain, one part of the "spine" of his side that also includes David Seaman, Paul Ince and Shearer, was now fit enough to concentrate on the performances of the rest of the team rather than just having to focus on himself. Mentally. Tony has come

back 100 per cent from France," Hoddle said. "Physically, he has still got a little way to go, but there is a change in his mental approach to the game that I am TONIGHT'S TEAMS AT WEMBLEY

ENGLAND (probable, 352† N Martyn (Leeds United) — G Newfle (Manchester United), A Adems (Arsenal, captarn, S Campbell (Totterham Hotspur) — R Lee (Newcastle United), P Gascoligne (Rungers), P Ince (Liverpool), N Butt (Manchester United), A Hinchester (Sheffield Wednesdry) — E Sheffingham (Manchester United), A Cole (Manchester United), A Cole (Manchester United)

Chosen because they play in a similar way to England's World Cup group rivals, Colombia, they only qualified for France on goal difference above Peru and are fresh from

Chile should not provide too

stern a test, despite the pres-ence of their highly-prized striker. Marcelo Salas, once a

target for Manchester United

but now bound for Lazio in

born captain.

an unconvincing trip that saw pleased to see. His appetite for them draw with New Zealand the game is there now, his and edge to a 1-0 win over desire is there. He is a natural-Australia.

The test, in fact, will not be measured in victory or defeat, but in the way that the England hopefuls progress. Dublin may be given a chance in defence or in attack, Andy Hinchcliffe, a Hoddle favourite, should get another oppormuity at left wing back, and Robert Lee could be offered the chance to make sure that he does not miss out on another squad, as he did for the 1996

European championship. All eyes, though, will be on Owen. "He has : blossomed this season." Hoddle conclud-CHILE (probable: 3.5.2): N Tapis (Universidad Catolica) — R Fuerissa (Universidad de Chile), J Margas (Universidad Catolica), P Reyes (Colo Colo), C Acuna (Universidad Catolica), I, Parraguez (Universidad Catolica), J L Serra (Colo Colo), P Deldames (Universidad de Chile), J Carreno (unatrached) ed. There is no pressure on him to get to the World Cup, but he should be saying. 'I want that challenge, I feel I can cope with it and deal with it. He loves the game. That FREE PHONE. FREE CALLS AND UP TO £56.88 OFF YOUR HOME PHONE BILL. FREE MOBILE PHONE Notia 3110 FREE HOME CALLS calls from your BI home phone VODREUME Save up to 15% on national and FREE MOBILE CALLS off peak monthly calls - Leather carry case Telday (Boney back guarantee HOICA 3110 FREE

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Acosta throws caution to the winds

NELSON ACOSTA, the Chile coach. may consider England to be among the on all-out attack in search favourites for the World Cup this summer but he and his attack-minded side expect to offer a serious challenge at Wembley tonight. "I like the way England play but we intend to give them

more than a good workout." Acosta said yesterday. I have enormous respect for Glenn Hoddle and the way he has changed England's style. I would rank England among the favourites for the World Cup and this could be their year. They looked very good against Italy and this summer is their best chance for some time."

Chile coach promises to rely

of style to take on world's best

Chile have developed a reputation for all-out attack with Ivan Zamorano and Marcelo Salas forming a prolific pairing up front. In Marcello Vega they have an experienced midfield playmaker. Acosta's favoured system of playing two attacking full backs could also create.

problems for England. Despite an impressive record in quali-

fying for the World Cup, where they are grouped with Italy, Cameroon and Austria, Chile are trying to develop a new style. "We are still trying to change our game so we can be more competitive at the top level," Acosta said. "I am looking for a tighter defence and rapid move-ments off the ball. We have realised it's the style of the teams like England that

Salas echoed Acosta. "To play at Wembley is very special," he said. This is a big game in our World Cup preparations and England's standings in the world means we must have total respect for them to stand a chance.